

State of Connecticut
Department of Correction
Program Development

Alphabetical Listing of Programs; Agency Wide

Action Drama

Description

The Action Drama Program is a highly acclaimed inmate outreach drama program which brings to youth around the state its message of choices and taking responsibility for the results of one's at-risk behavior. The program consists of a hard-hitting drama, inmate/cast testimonies, and interactive question and answer session. The performances, averaging one per week for the ten months of the school year, occur both in the Willard/Cybulski visiting room and throughout Connecticut.

Facilities:

Willard-Cybulski CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Community Service, Self Improvement

Addiction Services Aftercare Program

Description

The aftercare program is available to inmates following completion of Tier 3 or Tier 4 programs. It is designed to provide a continuum of care and maintenance of a recovery identity, which fosters independence, personal responsibility, and application of relapse prevention skills.

Facilities:

Brooklyn CI, Cheshire CI, Enfield CI, Gates CI, MacDougall CI, Osborn CI, Radgowski CI, Robinson CI, York CI

Auspices:

Addiction Services

Types:

Addiction

Addiction Services Tier 1 Substance Abuse Education Program

Description

The Tier 1 program consists of six (6) substance abuse education group sessions, including a minimum of one fellowship meeting. This program is designed to present basic substance abuse information, confront denial, and encourage further treatment involvement.

Facilities:

Bridgeport CC, Corrigan CI, Garner CI, Hartford CC, New Haven CC, Willard-Cybulski CI, York CI

Auspices:

Addiction Services

Types:

Addiction

Addiction Services Tier 2 Intensive Outpatient Program

Description

The Tier 2 Program is an intensive outpatient Addiction Services program with 30 curriculum sessions for 10 weeks. Group components are held three times weekly and incorporate weekly fellowship meetings to lay the foundation of basic substance abuse information, promote personal identification with recovery, and motivate further treatment involvement.

Facilities:

Bergin CI, Brooklyn CI, Cheshire CI, Enfield CI, Garner CI, Gates CI, MacDougall CI, Manson YI, Osborn CI, Radgowski CI, Robinson CI, Webster CI, Willard-Cybulski CI, York CI

Auspices:

Addiction Services

Types:

Addiction

Addiction Services Tier 3 Daycare Program

Description

The Tier 3 Program is a Addiction Services program with group components held four times a week for sixteen weeks (64 curriculum sessions), and weekly fellowship meetings.

As a part of the treatment plan, participants are expected to have a job or attend school when not attending groups. Treatment services are provided primarily in a group setting. Evaluation and, as needed, crisis intervention is conducted in individual counseling sessions.

Facilities:

Brooklyn CI, Cheshire CI, Enfield CI, Garner CI, Gates CI, MacDougall CI, Radgowski CI, Webster CI

Auspices:

Addiction Services

Types:

Addiction

Addiction Services Tier 4 Residential Treatment Program

Description

The Tier 4 Addiction Services program is a modified therapeutic community. The program provides inmates the opportunity to be involved in full-time substance treatment in a separate housing unit. Tier 4 treatment is intensive and includes curriculum, skill building and process groups, as well as community building and individual counseling. These residential programs are six months in length.

Facilities:

Manson YI, Osborn CI, Robinson CI, York CI

Auspices:

Addiction Services

Types:

Addiction

Administrative Segregation: Bridge Group

Description

This class is a component of the Administrative Segregation program. It is designed to (1) review all the concepts taught in the previous classes; (2) afford an opportunity for senior management in the facility to interact with inmates and evaluate program progress; (3) help inmates think about and plan the next step in the three-phase A.S. program.

Facilities:

Northern CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Administrative Segregation

Administrative Segregation: Communications Class

Description

This Administrative Segregation (A.S.) class is the first class offered to inmates in the 3-phase A.S. program. Research into causes of violence among inmates reveals that frequently there is a breakdown in communications or faulty communications. This group is designed to help inmates improve their communications skills.

Facilities:

Northern CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Administrative Segregation

Administrative Segregation: How To Deal With Your Anger

Description

This is one of the classes in the Administrative Segregation (A.S.) program. An essential capacity these inmates need to develop is to be able to deal with angry feelings without resorting to violence. This class is designed to help change thinking and attitudes which promote violence and to develop skills to deal with anger without violence.

Facilities:

Northern CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Administrative Segregation, Anger Management

Administrative Segregation: How to Deal With Your Problems and How to Do Your Bid

Description

This is a group designed for inmates on Administrative Segregation status. One of the problems which many inmates have in general, and A.S. inmates have in particular, is that they lack the skills necessary for problem solving. The first part of this class is designed to help inmates learn that not all problems can be solved and to assist them in approaching problems so as to (1) respond in the best way to the presented problem and (2) not to make the situation worse. In the second part of the class the inmates review a videotape that shows inmates who have completed a restrictive housing program. In that video the inmates discuss what they believe is necessary in order to "do your bid." The video serves as a stimulus for inmates to discuss how it is possible to live in a prison environment without getting into trouble.

Facilities:

Northern CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Administrative Segregation

Administrative Segregation: Orientation and Communication

Description

This is the first class offered to inmates in the Administrative Segregation Phase Program. Research into causes of violence among inmates reveals that frequently there is a breakdown in communication or poor communication skills. This group is designed to assist inmates in improving communication skills.

Facilities:

Northern CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Administrative Segregation

Administrative Segregation: Relapse Prevention

Description

This is one of the classes in the Administrative Segregation (A.S.) program. Inmates are placed on A.S. status due to serious behavioral problems such as assaulting staff or other inmates. As the inmates' behavior improves in the program, they enter this class, Relapse Prevention. This class is designed to help inmates understand and avoid relapse.

Facilities:

Northern CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Administrative Segregation

Adult Basic Education (ABE)

Description

ABE is the primary program of instruction designed to provide training in basic academic skills in the areas of reading, mathematics, language arts, general science and social studies. The program is directed toward increasing proficiency to the eighth grade level.

Facilities:

Bergin CI, Bridgeport CC, Brooklyn CI, Cheshire CI, Corrigan CI, Enfield CI, Garner CI, Gates CI, Hartford CC, MacDougall CI, Manson YI, New Haven CC, Osborn CI, Radgowski CI, Robinson CI, Walker RSMU, Webster CI, Willard-Cybulski CI, York CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Academic Education

Adult Children of Alcoholics (ACOA)

Description

This is an anonymous fellowship group designed to support individuals who have grown up in an alcoholic/dysfunctional family and are seeking help to heal self-destructive life patterns.

Facilities:

York CI

Auspices:

Addiction Services, Volunteer Services

Types:

Addiction

AIDS Awareness Group

Description

This is a peer education program which allows inmates to discuss issues associated with HIV. Health Services staff who lead the program provide accurate information regarding all aspects of HIV.

Facilities:

Osborn CI

Auspices:

Health Services

Types:

Health Education

AI-Anon

Description

This is a self-help support group for friends and family members of alcoholic or problem drinkers. Discussions primarily focus on problematic behaviors exhibited by the alcoholic, helping the attendees develop coping strategies. This on-going evening group is offered weekly.

Facilities:

Osborn CI, York CI

Auspices:

Addiction Services, Volunteer Services

Types:

Addiction

Alcoholics Anonymous

Description

This is a 12-Step Fellowship self-help group for men and women who provide mutual support in obtaining and maintaining sobriety while also helping others to recover from alcoholism. Meetings, in a variety of formats (Big Book, Step Meetings, Speaker, etc.), are held on a weekly basis. Addiction Services staff coordinate the meetings and provide oversight for the program.

Facilities:

Bergin CI, Bridgeport CC, Cheshire CI, Corrigan CI, Enfield CI, Garner CI, Gates CI, MacDougall CI, Manson YI, New Haven CC, Osborn CI, Radgowski CI, Robinson CI, Webster CI, Willard-Cybulski CI, York CI

Auspices:

Addiction Services, Volunteer Services

Types:

Addiction

Alcoholics Anonymous - Spanish

Description

This program is conducted in Spanish. Alcoholics Anonymous is a 12-Step Fellowship self-help group for men and women who provide mutual support in obtaining and maintaining sobriety while also helping others to recover from alcoholism. Meetings are held on a weekly basis. Addiction Services staff coordinate the meetings and provide oversight for the program.

Facilities:

Gates CI, York CI

Auspices:

Addiction Services

Types:

Addiction

Alternatives to Violence (AVP):

Description

Certified AVP volunteers lead basic, intermediate and advanced workshops to teach inmates to understand and to control anger, and how to cope with violence in their lives. Inmates are provided certificates of completion for each workshop level. Those completing AVP workshops become eligible to serve as group facilitators.

Facilities:

Enfield CI, Osborn CI, Robinson CI, York CI

Auspices:

Volunteer Group

Types:

Anger Management

Anger & Stress Management

Description

Stress is what one feels when one faces fear, change, pressure and the unknown. Stress is an unavoidable part of life, especially in prison. When stressed, there is a tendency to overreact and become upset, angry, or anxious. This class teaches inmates skills necessary to effectively manage their anger and stress.

Facilities:

Garner CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Anger Management

Anger Management

Description

This group program is designed to help inmates better manage their anger. It teaches inmates how to redirect their anger to a less aggressive and more controlled response.

Facilities:

Bergin CI, Brooklyn CI, Corrigan CI, Osborn CI, Radgowski CI, Webster CI, York CI

Auspices:

Health Services

Types:

Anger Management

Anger Management - Garner

Description

This group is provided to inmates assigned to mental health housing units. The program is designed to assist inmates to improve techniques for effective management of their anger without the use of aggressive behavior. The program focuses on stress reduction, adjustment to environmental change, improved communication skills and improved interpersonal relationship skills. The modalities used are: Relaxation technique, cognitive therapy, visualization and journal-keeping, and brief lectures on the nature of anger and factors sustaining it.

Facilities:

Garner CI

Auspices:

Health Services

Types:

Anger Management, Mental Health

Anger Management - Walker-RSMU

Description

Anger management groups are broken down into two parts. Part I is a psychoeducational group focusing on the fundamentals of communication and emotional awareness. Part II is contingent upon successful completion of Part I. Part II focuses on the underlying causes of anger and how to express anger in an effective manner.

Facilities:

Walker RSMU

Auspices:

Facility Staff, Health Services

Types:

Anger Management, Self Improvement

Applied Nutrition

Description

Instruction places emphasis on the understanding of basic principles and concepts of nutrition with applications drawn from the hospitality industry. This course forms part of the BCI Tech Prep Program with Manchester Community College. Students are awarded three college credits upon successful completion of the course.

Facilities:

Brooklyn CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Vocational Education

Apprenticeship Programs

Description

Apprenticeships in concert with the Labor Department are offered in thirty-six programs at twelve sites. These programs range in length from six months to three years. Vocational students earn apprenticeship credit and upon completion of a program are awarded a prospective apprenticeship certificate by the Connecticut Labor Department.

Facilities:

Brooklyn CI, Cheshire CI, Enfield CI, Gates CI, MacDougall CI, Manson YI, Osborn CI, Radgowski CI, Robinson CI, Webster CI, York CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Transition, Vocational Education

Artists In Residence

Description

Accomplished artists provide inmates with an introduction to the basic principles of fine art. Volunteer Artists-In-Residence within correctional institutions bring art behind bars and serve to broaden inmates' abilities to express themselves by developing talents or skills in drawing, painting, music and creative writing. Inmate artwork is collected annually by a Prison Art Program Curator from Hartford's Community Partners in Action (CPA) which operates this service solely through the support of grants from local foundations, corporations and the Connecticut Commission on the Arts. This art collection is arranged for exhibition in community spaces across the state. The CPA also publishes an annual journal of arts in correction serving to bring creative writing, poetry and visual art produced by inmates to the broader community.

Facilities:

Cheshire CI, MacDougall CI, Manson YI, Osborn CI, Robinson CI, York CI

Auspices:

Volunteer Services

Types:

Self Improvement

Arts & Crafts

Description

This group is provided is to inmates assigned to mental health housing units. This program allows inmates to exhibit and/or develop artistic talent in a structured and therapeutic environment. It also allows inmates with no developed talents the opportunity to creatively express themselves utilizing basic art forms (drawing, coloring, tracing).

Facilities:

Garner CI

Auspices:

Health Services

Types:

Mental Health

ASE - Automotive Service Excellence Certification

Description

This is a nationally recognized program, which offers national certification in over 40 automotive trade areas. Testing is given twice a year to candidates who have prior hands-on experience and book knowledge in automotive trade areas.

Facilities:

Brooklyn CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Vocational Education

Attitude and Behavior = Choices

Description

This is one of the classes in the Manson Youth Institution Chronic Disciplinary Unit. It is designed to improve attitudes and behavior choices.

Facilities:

Manson YI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Youth CDU

Auto Body Technology

Description

This program emphasizes the fundamentals of safety, welding, straightening, refinishing, mechanical principles, manual skills, framework and good work habits. Students complete 300 hours of theory and 600 hours of shop practice. The program includes safety, metalworking, surface preparation, painting, glass and estimating. This vocational training prepares inmates to acquire a skilled, well-paying job in the community.

Facilities:

Willard-Cybulski CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Vocational Education

Auto Body Technology-MYI

Description

This is a program developed for students who are interested in a career in the auto body field. The program emphasizes the fundamentals of safety, welding, straightening, refinishing, mechanical principals, manual skills, framework and good work habits. The program includes safety, metalworking, surface preparation, painting glass and estimating.

Facilities:

Manson YI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Vocational Education

Automation Machining

Description

Robotics is quickly taking the place of many conventional machines in American manufacturing. Robots are used on assembly lines, production, and packaging. In the automation technology shop, students learn beginning skills in the use and programming of robots as well as conventional machining skills. Additional skills in CNC machining are also introduced. Much of the instruction takes place via computer. This vocational training positions inmates to acquire a skilled, high-paying job in the community.

Facilities:

Manson YI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Vocational Education

Automotive Technology

Description

This is a technical program designed for students that wish to make a career as an automotive technician. Theory and practical applications of automotive systems and components are studied in detail. Instruction in diagnostic testing, precision measuring tools, and troubleshooting of the automobile are emphasized. This vocational training positions inmates to acquire a skilled, high-paying job in the community.

Facilities:

Manson YI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Vocational Education

Band Program

Description

This program provides inmates of different musical backgrounds an opportunity to learn and create different styles of music. There are currently four bands and each band plays twice a week for an hour session. These bands occasionally perform for the inmate population during various monthly activities.

Facilities:

Enfield CI, Osborn CI, Robinson CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Self Improvement

Basic Baking

Description

Instruction is designed to develop skills in the production of batters, cookies, pies cakes, and decorations. The course forms part of the BCI Tech Prep Program with Manchester Community College. Students are awarded three college credits upon successful completion of the course.

Facilities:

Brooklyn CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Vocational Education

Basic Food Service

Description

This course introduces techniques and procedures required to prepare basic foods with emphasis on use of equipment, identification of a standard quality product, and the development of sanitary working habits. It is apprenticeship-approved by the CT State Department of Labor. The course also forms part of the BCI Tech Prep Program with Manchester Community College and carries three credits.

Facilities:

Brooklyn CI, Radgowski CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Vocational Education

Beat the Streets/Pre-Release Video Group

Description

This is a group which would be held to increase relapse prevention and coping skills of inmates who are preparing to enter the community. It will be a five-week group based on the video series Beat the Streets. These films address relapse prevention strategies, dealing with housing, old friends, triggers, coping with relapse traps that occur in relationships, techniques for handling anger, shame, guilt, self-pity, and goals of long term recovery.

Facilities:

York CI

Auspices:

Addiction Services

Types:

Anger Management, Self Improvement

Beginners and Advanced Art Programs

Description

This is a program specifically developed to enable inmates with different artistic abilities to work together. This program consists of painting, pencil and pen sketches and pastels.

This class is offered two times a week for two hours per session. Some finished projects have been displayed in CPA-sponsored art galleries.

Facilities:

Robinson CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Self Improvement

Beyond Fear

Description

This is an AIDS education program utilizing a curriculum, printed materials, and an educational video developed by the Department of Public Health. The program is delivered by a contracted outside agency, and funded through the Department of Public Health.

Facilities:

Bergin CI, Bridgeport CC, Brooklyn CI, Cheshire CI, Corrigan CI, Gates CI, Hartford CC, Manson YI, New Haven CC, Radgowski CI, Webster CI, York CI

Auspices:

Addiction Services, Contracted Program, Health Services

Types:

Health Education

Bicycle & Wheelchair Repair

Description

This program teaches inmates to repair wheelchairs and train to become bicycle mechanics. Work is done for state agencies that use wheelchairs and refurbish bicycles for donations to children.

Facilities:

Cheshire CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Community Service, Vocational Education

Books-On-Tape

Description

This program offers a service to area public schools in need of supplementary cassette recordings for literature-based reading programs. Inmate volunteers read classic literature on tape for schools requesting the service. This program not only reinforces the participants' reading skills but expands their knowledge of classic literature as well.

Facilities:

Brooklyn CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Academic Education, Community Service

Braille Program

Description

The Braille Program enables inmates in Protective Custody to learn a new skill and to use that skill to help the blind people of Connecticut. The objective of this program is to train and form a pool of qualified braille writers to provide support in a voluntary manner to the Connecticut Braille Association, to certify those braille writers that complete the required training and to maintain such skills once obtained in order to provide them with marketable skills for the future.

Facilities:

Cheshire CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Community Service, Vocational Education

Bridge Group-MYI

Description

This is the last component of the SRG Close Monitoring Program. It is designed to ensure that the concepts presented in the previous classes have been learned. Through group discussions, lead by counselors, officers and supervisors, the inmate will confirm that they have gained an understanding of the concepts presented and put them into practice.

Facilities:

Manson YI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Youth SRG

Bridging the Gap

Description

Alcoholics Anonymous is one of the most important self-help resources for alcoholic men and women. A very important first step for inmates being released into the community is attending the first meeting as soon as possible following release. Addiction Services staff in the institution utilize a toll-free telephone number to get information about the nearest AA meeting location, along with the name of a contact person. An AA member then will contact the inmate upon release and even provide transportation to a meeting.

Facilities:

Bergin CI, Bridgeport CC, Brooklyn CI, Cheshire CI, Corrigan CI, Enfield CI, Garner CI, Gates CI, Hartford CC, MacDougall CI, Manson YI, New Haven CC, Northern CI, Osborn CI, Radgowski CI, Robinson CI, Walker RSMU, Webster CI, Willard-Cybulski CI, York CI

Auspices:

Addiction Services, Volunteer Services

Types:

Addiction, Transition

Building a Ladder-MYI

Description

This program is designed for the inmate to understand the ladder they are climbing from responsibility, through self-awareness, experiences in life and future planning, changing the future, and finally to their children. It is designed to help participants understand how their actions effect not only their lives but also others around them.

Facilities:

Manson YI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Youth SRG

Building Maintenance

Description

This program is designed to help students develop their special interests in the areas of woodworking, electricity, masonry and plumbing techniques. The first phase includes cabinetmaking, carpentry, furniture refinishing, and machine work. The second phase of the program involves basics of electricity, plugs, cords and receptacles. In the final phase of Building Maintenance the students learn the techniques of plumbing, including cutting, threading, and bending copper and plastic pipe. Throughout the courses shop and tool safety is always stressed.

Facilities:

Enfield CI, MacDougall CI, Manson YI, Osborn CI, Robinson CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Vocational Education

Business Education

Description

This program prepares students for entry-level employment requiring basic business skills.

Facilities:

Cheshire CI, Enfield CI, MacDougall CI, Manson YI, Osborn CI, Webster CI, York CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Vocational Education

Cabinet Making Technology

Description

Students will learn to build, install and repair all kinds of wooden structures and cabinets. Instruction will include basic math skills to include measurements and calculation processes, proper use of equipment and hand tools, terminology related to the carpentry trade and the need for cooperation and teamwork. Students will learn to read and follow blueprints and estimate materials and costs for selected projects.

Facilities:

MacDougall CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Vocational Education

Cage Your Rage

Description

This program teaches inmates about anger, teaches inmates how anger is different from aggression, and teaches inmates how to manage their anger without becoming aggressive. The program uses both a workbook and accompanying videos.

Facilities:

Willard-Cybulski CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Anger Management, Self Improvement

Cap Factory

Description

Correctional Enterprises of Connecticut oversees this private sector company engaged in the manufacturing of baseball caps. Inmates assigned to this area earn prevailing wage and generally work forty hours per week. Inmates selected for this assignment must first spend at least one year in the textile shop and have better than average sewing machine skills. Approximately 50% of wages earned is deducted from inmate pay for room and board, victim fund, child support and taxes.

Facilities:

Osborn CI

Auspices:

Correctional Enterprises of Connecticut

Types:

Institutional Employment, Vocational Education

Career Exploration Day

Description

This program teaches inmates about different vocations. Designed as an "in-house" activity, facility Vocational Instructors present information and samples about their programs to academic students. The majority of students participating have sentences of three years or more and are able to learn about different vocations.

Facilities:

MacDougall CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Transition

Career Exploration Fair

Description

This program teaches inmates about different vocations. Designed as an "in-house" activity, facility Vocational Instructors present information and samples about their programs to academic students. Outside agencies present information and provide students with recommendations for job searching and interviewing skills. This activity is conducted in the form of a professional conference for students. The majority of students participating have sentences of three years or more and are able to learn about different vocations.

Facilities:

Manson YI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Transition

Carpentry Technology

Description

In this program students learn shop safety, the proper use of tools, and terminology related to carpentry. The student drafts a blueprint of a house using basic math skills and calculations used in the construction field. With these skills the student builds a model house to scale following applicable building codes.

Facilities:

MacDougall CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Vocational Education

Carpentry/Cabinet Making

Description

Students learn to build, install, and repair different kinds of wooden structures and cabinets. Instruction includes basic math skills, to include measurements and calculation processes. Inmates are taught proper use of equipment and hand tools, terminology related to the carpentry trade and the need for cooperation and team-work. Students learn to read and follow blueprints and estimate materials and costs for selected projects.

This course also includes introduction to manufacturing technology (CAD/CAM) and industrial production programs. This vocation training prepares inmates for jobs in the community.

Facilities:

Osborn CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Vocational Education

Catholic Bible Study

Description

Biblical readings are reviewed with inmates. The goal of this program is to help inmates develop self-awareness and personal growth based on Christian principles.

Facilities:

Bergin CI, Bridgeport CC, Brooklyn CI, Cheshire CI, Corrigan CI, Enfield CI, Garner CI, Gates, Hartford CC, MacDougall CI, Manson YI, New Haven CC, Radgowski CI, Robinson CI, Walker RSMU, York CI

Auspices:

Religious Services

Types:

Religious

Catholic Faith Sharing

Description

Participants in this program use the Small Christian Community Booklet as a guide for sharing their Catholic Faith.

Facilities:

Cheshire CI

Auspices:

Religious Services

Types:

Religious

Catholic Life in the Spirit Seminar

Description

This is a weekend faith development seminar held twice yearly.

Facilities:

Cheshire CI, Corrigan CI, Radgowski CI, York CI

Auspices:

Religious Services, Volunteer Services

Types:

Religious

Catholic Mass

Description

This is the weekly Catholic worship service.

Facilities:

Bergin CI, Bridgeport CC, Brooklyn CI, Cheshire CI, Corrigan CI, Enfield CI, Garner CI, Gates CI, Hartford CC, MacDougall CI, Manson YI, New Haven CC, Northern CI, Osborn CI, Radgowski CI, Robinson CI, Walker RSMU, Webster CI, Willard-Cybulski CI, York CI

Auspices:

Religious Services

Types:

Worship Services

Catholic Mass (Spanish)

Description

This is the weekly Catholic worship service conducted in Spanish.

Facilities:

Garner CI

Auspices:

Religious Services

Types:

Worship Services

Catholic Personal Growth Group

Description

Participants in this program will be focusing on developing a healthy spirituality using personal disciplines to let go of destructive behaviors.

Facilities:

Manson YI

Auspices:

Religious Services

Types:

Religious

Catholic Rap Group

Description

This is a weekly informal discussion group that is open to current issues pertaining to the Catholic faith and their practical application. A volunteer conducts this group.

Facilities:

Enfield CI, Osborn CI, Robinson CI

Auspices:

Religious Services, Volunteer Services

Types:

Religious

Catholic Retreat

Description

EMMAUS RETREAT - A Catholic Faith Retreat that is held once a year with monthly reunions.

Facilities:

Garner CI

Auspices:

Religious Services

Types:

Religious

Catholic Scripture Sharing Group

Description

This is a group sharing of bible readings for the day following the catholic liturgical calendar. Discussion of thoughts generated by readings as they apply to daily living.

Facilities:

Bergin CI

Auspices:

Religious Services

Types:

Religious

Catholic Sharing Hour

Description

Inmates, using an open forum, share their struggles, fears, and doubts in walking the Christian path while in prison. Volunteers who conduct this program help them in a positive, healthy manner to overcome these obstacles.

Facilities:

Garner CI

Auspices:

Religious Services, Volunteer Services

Types:

Religious

Catholic Studies

Description

Participants in this program study materials from the Confirmation Lesson Plan Guide. This study prepares students for the sacrament of Confirmation.

Facilities:

Bridgeport CC, Brooklyn CI, Cheshire CI, Corrigan CI, Enfield CI, Garner CI, Gates CI, Hartford CC, MacDougall CI, Manson YI, Osborn CI, Radgowski CI, Robinson CI, York CI

Auspices:

Religious Services

Types:

Religious

Certified Nurse's Aide Program

Description

The purpose of the C.N.A. program is to prepare students for entry level employment in a long-term care facility servicing geriatric patients. The 165-hour course is designed to teach basic-nursing skills used in patient care. Upon successful completion of the CNA program, the student qualifies to take the state exam for certification.

Facilities:

York CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Vocational Education

Chaplain's Prayer Circle

Description

Participants meet weekly with the chaplain of their faith for prayer and study to seek ways to rightly model their faith to peers and to help the chaplain gauge the impact of religious programming on inmate living. Group size is limited to 12, and selection criteria are determined by the chaplain.

Facilities:

Radgowski CI

Auspices:

Religious Services

Types:

Religious

Child Development Group

Description

This is an educational group that provides information on the stages of child development. Participants become aware of their child's age-appropriate behaviors and learn the importance of communicating effectively with their child. This group meets weekly for six sessions.

Facilities:

York CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Family

Choir

Description

Both Catholic and Protestant inmates are able to join choirs in their respective religious service. These choirs both enhance the religious liturgies and add a level of veneration to those services.

Facilities:

Bridgeport CC, Brooklyn CI, Corrigan CI, Enfield CI, Garner CI, Gates CI, Hartford CC, MacDougall CI, Manson YI, New Haven CC, Osborn CI, Robinson CI, Walker RSMU

Auspices:

Religious Services

Types:

Religious

Chronic Disciplinary Unit: Controlling Your Anger

Description

This Close Custody class is designed to help inmates manage anger without resorting to aggression or violence.

Facilities:

Walker RSMU

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Anger Management, CDU

Chronic Disciplinary Unit: How to Deal with Your Problems and How to Do Your Bid

Description

This is a group designed for inmates in the DOC's Chronic Disciplinary Unit. One of the problems which many inmates have in general, and restrictive housing inmates have in particular, is that they lack the skills necessary for problem solving. The first part of this class is designed to help inmates learn that not all problems can be solved and to assist them in approaching problems so as to (1) respond in the best way to the presented problem and (2) not to make the situation worse. In the second part of the class the inmates review a videotape which shows inmates who have completed a restrictive housing program. In that video the inmates discuss what they believe is necessary in order to "do your bid." The video serves as a stimulus for inmates to discuss how it is possible to live in a prison environment without getting into trouble.

Facilities:

Walker RSMU

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

CDU

Chronic Disciplinary Unit: Relapse Prevention

Description

This is one of several groups in the Close Custody program. In order to reach this class in the program the inmate has had to be behaving himself and interacting appropriately with other inmates and staff. This group is designed to help inmates examine the issues that might result in a relapse of the problematic behavior which resulted in their placement in Close Custody, a very restrictive special housing program.

Facilities:

Walker RSMU

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

CDU

Chronic Disciplinary Unit: Orientation and Communication

Description

This class is the first offered to inmates in the Chronic Disciplinary Unit. Research into causes of violence among inmates reveals that frequently there is a breakdown in communication or poor communication skills. This group is designed to assist inmates in improving communication skills.

Facilities:

Walker RSMU

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

CDU

CLEP-College Level Examination Program

Description

This is a nationally recognized program, which provides an opportunity for individuals to obtain college credit through examination using self-guided study with proper course materials. Twenty-nine different examinations are available that can award credit in general subject areas. Three to twelve credits can be awarded for a single exam depending on its difficulty.

Facilities:

Brooklyn CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Academic Education

Co-Counseling

Description

Volunteers under the auspices of Addiction Services conduct this program. It is designed to promote personal growth with a specific focus on enhancing self-esteem and helping inmates make positive changes in their lives. Participants of the program focus on applying recovery principles to make positive changes in their lives. Issues such as self-esteem are discussed and role-plays are utilized to provide concrete opportunities to apply new information to work out real life problems.

Facilities:

Enfield CI, Osborn CI

Auspices:

Addiction Services, Volunteer Services

Types:

Addiction

Cognitive Restructuring

Description

Thoughts, beliefs, and attitudes are what govern individual behavior. Throughout life, humans are exposed to a variety of sources that influence or determine the thoughts, beliefs, and values, morals and attitudes that predispose them to behave in a particular fashion. This course is designed to explore individual beliefs, attitudes and thoughts. Through exercise and discussion inmates are provided with an opportunity to explore the origins of their thoughts and beliefs and understand how they are responsible for their behavior. Once inmates understand the origins; exercises, visualizations, drawings, and discussions are be utilized to expand their perspectives so that they can change the beliefs, thoughts, and attitudes, which create their problems.

Facilities:

Garner CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Self Improvement

College Credit and Vocational Certification By Exam

Description

This program provides study opportunities for earning college credits and vocational certifications in 29 academic subject areas, as well as national vocational certification in Sanitation and Automotive Service Excellence (ASE). This program also offers credit by exam in 6 academic subject areas in cooperation with local community colleges.

Facilities:

Bergin CI, Brooklyn CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Academic Education, Vocational Education

Commercial Cleaning

Description

This thirty-week program focuses on basic and advanced commercial cleaning procedures. The program covers the chemistry of cleaning, handling of hazardous and infectious waste, and the basic cleaning procedures for floor, tile, carpeted areas and restrooms. In phase two, the student is taught advanced procedures for maintaining all types of surfaces, as well as the necessary skills to recognize and operate various types of equipment. Graduation from this program can assist inmates in obtaining a job in the community.

Facilities:

Cheshire CI, Gates CI, MacDougall CI, Robinson CI, York CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Vocational Education

Commitment to Change

Description

This program assists youthful offender inmates in understanding the behavior that stems from negative thinking patterns and belief systems. The goal of the group is to encourage positive behavior and the formation of healthy relationships with others and oneself. This is an eight-week program.

Facilities:

Corrigan CI, Garner CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Self Improvement

Communication Skills

Description

This group helps participants develop effective communication skills. Topics include verbal and nonverbal communication, active listening and managing conflicts. This group meets weekly for eight sessions and is offered to inmates housed in the restrictive housing unit.

Facilities:

York CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Female CDU

Community Details

Description

In this program minimum security inmates who are determined eligible and suitable, work for local towns, the Connecticut Department of Transportation, or eligible non-profit organizations providing various maintenance tasks. In addition to providing a community service, the experience assists inmates in developing good work habits. The inmates are supervised by trained employees from the jurisdiction where they work.

Facilities:

Willard-Cybulski CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Community Work Group

Community Enhancement Project

Description

This program is designed to foster a positive relationship between the facility and the community by placing sentenced level 2 inmates in the community for the purpose of completing various work details and community beautification projects. This program serves a dual-purpose - that of providing assistance to the community while allowing incarcerated individuals to make a small contribution back to society.

Facilities:

Bridgeport CC, Webster CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Community Work Group

Community Lecture

Description

This is a psychosocial group. Topics touch on issues of the day relative to the participants' lives, such as how to look for work in the community. Educational videos may be shown. Guest lecturers are invited. This weekly group is available to inmates residing in the Social Rehabilitation Housing Unit.

Facilities:

York CI

Auspices:

Health Services

Types:

Health Education, Self Improvement

Community Outreach Program

Description

This program provides assistance with Public Service projects for the state, local governments and non-profit organizations. Projects include general cleaning, painting, stripping and waxing floors, office work and outside grounds work.

Facilities:

Bergin CI, York CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Community Work Group

Community Outreach Program Support (COPS)

Description

This program was developed at Osborn Correctional Institution. Groups of youth from schools and other organizations come into the prison. While visiting the prison they meet with staff and inmates. The program is designed to encourage participants to make wise decisions, to act responsibly, and to establish and work on personal goals. Inmate testimonials are used to show youth the consequences that the inmates now face as a result of their personal failure in these areas.

Facilities:

Osborn CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Community Service, Self Improvement

Community Services Detail

Description

The Community Services Detail provides inmate labor to various state and local non-profit organizations. Examples of work performed are basic carpentry, painting, refinishing floors, grounds landscaping and maintenance. A cornerstone of the restorative justice concept, the community services detail provides enormous benefit to the community and to the inmate participants.

Facilities:

Bergin CI, Gates CI, York CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Community Work Group

Computer Repair

Description

A+ Certification in Computer Repair means that students will possess the skills, knowledge, and customer relations skills essential to be a successful computer service technician, as defined by experts from companies across the industry. The Computer Repair Course covers a broad range of hardware and software technologies. It trains student to satisfy the standards of the computer industry and readies them to later become A+ Certified.

Facilities:

Cheshire CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Vocational Education

Connecticut Career Certificate

Description

A Connecticut Career Certificate is issued jointly by the Department of Education and the Department of Labor to students who have completed a combination of academic, vocational and employability competency skills, in one of eight career clusters. The assigned career cluster for Radgowski is "Retail, Tourism, Recreation and Entrepreneurship." The CCC credential is part of a nationwide school to career system.

Facilities:

Radgowski CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Vocational Education

Connecticut Dept. of Labor Apprenticeship Division

Description

This program provides assistance in locating jobs and positions to inmates with full or partial trade apprenticeships.

Facilities:

Bergin CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Transition

Connecticut Small Business Development Center

Description

This program provides information on starting a small business, as well as developing a business and marketing plan.

Facilities:

Bergin CI, Brooklyn CI, York CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Transition, Vocational Education

Connecticut Works

Description

This is a statewide program with 18 offices in Connecticut. CT WORKS is a partnership among the Connecticut Department of Labor, regional Workforce Development Boards, and a number of state and community organizations. Its mission is to enhance the economic development by addressing the special employment and training needs of both job seekers and employers. This program is offered to inmates that are Veterans in need of job services.

Facilities:

Bridgeport CC, Enfield CI, Gates CI, Hartford CC, MacDougall CI, New Haven CC

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Transition

CONNTAC-EOC (CT Talent Assistance Cooperative-Education

Opportunity Center)

Description

Representatives from CONNTAC-EOC are provided with names of students to meet with while the student is still incarcerated. The representatives assist students with their post-secondary plans and financial aid.

Facilities:

Bergin CI, Brooklyn CI, Enfield CI, Garner CI, Manson YI, New Haven CC, Radgowski CI, Walker RSMU, Webster CI, Willard-Cybulski CI, York CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Transition

Controlling Your Anger-MYI

Description

In this class inmates are taught about stress: that it is what one feels when faced with change, pressure, and the unknown. They are also taught about anger: that it is an unavoidable and inevitable part of life. Then the inmates are helped to examine how they have handled stress and anger in the past. Finally, the class helps inmates develop more effective approaches to dealing with stress and anger in the future.

Facilities:

Manson YI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Anger Management

Cook/Chef Apprenticeship

Description

This Culinary Arts program is located at the Department of Correction's Central Office CAFÉ 24. It provides theory and hands-on experience in food service in a public cafeteria. Level 2 inmates are transported to CAFÉ 24 where they have an opportunity to learn fundamentals as well as advance study in a setting which prepares them to achieve employment in the food service industry.

Facilities:

Webster CI, Willard-Cybulski CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Vocational Education

Cosmetology/Barbering

Description

This program prepares students to become licensed barbers and cosmetologists. Course requirements are 1500 hours of theory and practical experience to qualify for licensure. A rigorous set of criteria is required for entrance into the program. Final approval for licensure is determined through the State Board of Health. The classroom is set up to simulate an actual salon environment including appropriate business behavior. Upon completion of the course, it is followed by the state exam, administered at the facility through the State Board of Health and Addiction Services.

Facilities:

York CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Vocational Education

Courage to Change

Description

This group provides information regarding addiction issues as well as support services to inmates while incarcerated. The twelve-step philosophy is utilized to facilitate this program and the materials concentrate on the first three steps. This group meets weekly for ten sessions.

Facilities:

York CI

Auspices:

Addiction Services

Types:

Addiction

Creative Therapy

Description

This group is available to inmates housed in the inpatient mental health unit. It focuses on the development of interpersonal skills. It encourages empathy and the recognition of common problems. It helps participants recognize feelings as a response to the environment and promotes interpersonal learning through sharing constructive responses to negative experiences.

Facilities:

York CI

Auspices:

Health Services

Types:

Mental Health

Culinary Arts

Description

This course stresses safety and sanitation as well as tool and equipment usage. Through practice and discussion, students are taught skills in basic cooking, methods, culinary techniques, weights, measures and recipe conversions. Participants earn a Safe Serve Certificate after passing a test administered by the National Restaurant Association. This program is an apprenticeship approved through the CT State Department of Labor.

Facilities:

Brooklyn CI, Manson YI, Radgowski CI, Robinson CI, Webster CI, York CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Vocational Education

Cultural Awareness

Description

This program provides instruction and activities to help increase students' understanding and appreciation of the variety of cultures residing in the United States. History, values, spiritual beliefs, living conditions, language, family and hardships, past and present, are included in discussion topics. An emphasis is placed on the fact that there is more alike about each culture than differences.

Facilities:

Radgowski CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Cultural Diversity

Cultural Awareness-Garner

Description

This program component is designed around a need for Connecticut gangs to understand their opposing factions, similarities and differences. It has been proven by recent studies on confrontation that conflicts often arise because the opposing parties do not see each other's culture as human. This program teaches inmates about ethnocentricity and how their behavior perpetuates it.

Facilities:

Garner CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Cultural Diversity, SRG

Cultural Awareness-MYI

Description

This group is designed to help inmates practice the communication skills they have learned in previous segments of the Youth SRG program, establish an understanding of different cultures and begin to interact with different cultures and races without conflict.

Facilities:

Manson YI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Cultural Diversity, Youth SRG

Cultural Awareness-Security Risk Group Program

Description

This program addresses topics of defining culture, stereotypes, prejudice and encouraging tolerance of cultural diversity. Participants are security risk group members. This group meets weekly for four sessions.

Facilities:

Corrigan CI, York CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Cultural Diversity, Female SRG

DANTES Credit-by-Examination Testing

Description

The nationally recognized DANTES program, founded by the military, affords individuals the opportunity to gain college credit through self-guided study and examination. Thirty-seven different exams are available in a variety of subjects.

Facilities:

Brooklyn CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Academic Education

Data-Con

Description

This program teaches inmates how to utilize high-tech equipment for data processing purposes. Data-Con provides data entry services for a large number of state agencies. This program prepares inmates for data-entry jobs that are readily available in the community. Data-Con currently employs sixty inmates.

Facilities:

York CI

Auspices:

Correctional Enterprises of Connecticut

Types:

Institutional Employment, Vocational Education

Day of Reflection

Description

This is a one-day spiritual retreat that focuses on faith discussions, prayer and craft activities. It is held once per month.

Facilities:

York CI

Auspices:

Religious Services, Volunteer Services

Types:

Religious

Dealing With Anger

Description

This class is offered to both general population inmates and those in the CDU. It is provided because this youthful population has poor impulse control and is often spontaneous in its inappropriate response to its need to have immediate gratification. This class provides participants with more appropriate skills to manage their anger and frustration.

Facilities:

Manson YI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Anger Management, Youth CDU

Dealing With Your Anger

Description

This program is designed to help inmates learn to manage their anger without becoming assaultive. It is designed to help them learn concepts as well as learn skills.

Facilities:

New Haven CC

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Anger Management

Decisions

Description

This program is designed to encourage youth to explore their personal attitudes, choices, behaviors, and consequences through oral presentations, discussions, role play, and facility tours. Inmates are afforded the opportunity to give back to the community by sharing their behaviors that led to incarceration.

Facilities:

Cheshire CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Community Service, Self Improvement

Dental Technology

Description

Students learn all phases of dental work in the dental program. Specifics include the fabrication of full and partial acrylic, removal, prosthetics and the casting of partial dentures. Also covered is the theory of crown and bridge, ceramic, and implant dental prosthetics. Dentures are fabricated for inmates in all correctional institutions in Connecticut.

Facilities:

MacDougall CI

Auspices:

Correctional Enterprises of Connecticut, USD#1

Types:

Institutional Employment, Vocational Education

Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT) - Social Rehabilitation Program

Description

This highly structured treatment approach is designed to deal with individuals with a history of self-abuse, such as self-mutilation. It is a cognitive-behavioral modality with an additional element of relaxation/self-soothing. This group is available to inmates residing in the Social Rehabilitation Housing Unit. It meets twice weekly.

Facilities:

York CI

Auspices:

Health Services

Types:

Mental Health

Discussion Group

Description

This program allow inmates the opportunity to discuss and reflect on current lifestyle issues in an open forum, which helps them understand the situation they have created as well as permit views and suggestions from other inmate participants and approved volunteer facilitators.

Facilities:

Cheshire CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff, Religious Services

Types:

Self Improvement

Domestic Violence Group

Description

This group is designed for inmates who have committed a domestic violence offense. Successful completion of this program is a requirement for those inmates who enter into the department's community-based transitional supervision program for domestic violence offenders.

Facilities:

Bergin CI, Enfield CI, Robinson CI, Webster CI, Willard-Cybulski CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Domestic Violence, Family

Domestic Violence Program

Description

This program helps inmates to understand the nature of domestic violence and abuse. It explores underlying causes of domestic violence and helps inmates to examine their activities and behaviors. The last component focuses on developing skills to help inmates learn to respond in non-violent, appropriate ways.

Facilities:

Osborn CI

Auspices:

Health Services, Volunteer Group

Types:

Domestic Violence, Family

DWI Program

Description

This is a mandatory program for inmates incarcerated for driving a motor vehicle while intoxicated and for inmates incarcerated for related offenses. The program consists of fourteen sessions that includes helping inmates understand the nature of substance abuse and dependency, understand the nature of denial, and begin a recovery process.

Facilities:

Webster CI

Auspices:

Addiction Services

Types:

Addiction

Economic Survival

Description

A six (6) week group that will involve lectures and written exercises on the subjects of budgeting, insurance, loans, and handling credit while establishing a sound financial plan for the future.

Facilities:

Manson YI

Auspices:

Volunteer Group

Types:

Self Improvement

Educational, Career Resources and Job Fairs

Description

These types of Fairs are conducted in the form of a professional conference for students. The educational staff invite a keynote speaker and students proceed to attend individual workshops on a variety of topics. The goal of these Fairs is to assist inmates with their transition plans before they return to the community.

Facilities:

Bergin CI, Bridgeport CC, Brooklyn CI, Cheshire CI, Enfield CI, Hartford CC, New Haven CC, Osborn CI, Radgowski CI, Robinson CI, Webster CI, Willard-Cybulski CI, York CI

Auspices:

Addiction Services, USD#1

Types:

Academic Education, Transition

Effective Speaking

Description

Instruction is designed to encourage the development of speaking and listening skills in order to become effective communicators. Focus is placed on public speaking delivery, research and writing. This course forms part of the BCI Tech Prep Program with Manchester Community College. Students are awarded three college credits upon successful completion of the course.

Facilities:

Brooklyn CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Self Improvement

Electromechanical Technology

Description

This program provides students with theory-based instruction and hands-on experience in the areas of electronics, electrical circuits, mechanics, pneumatics, hydraulics and computer programming. It also includes repair of equipment to include washing machines, dish washers, electrical hand and bench tools such as lathes, drills, saws, grinders and polishers. Technicians apply their knowledge of programming and installation to repair robots, and related equipment such as programmable controllers, end of arm tools, conveyors and parts orientators. Students use power tools, hand tools, testing instruments and follow manuals' schematic diagrams and blueprints. The Electro-Mechanical program involves working closely with other on-site vocational programs. Buffers are repaired for MacDougall CI, Walker RSMU and Hartford CC. Graduation from this program can assist inmates in obtaining a job in the community.

Facilities:

MacDougall CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Vocational Education

Electronics

Description

The electronic/repair & service course is designed to provide students with the tools and skills needed for employment in the electronics field. Students study AC/DC theory, solid state theory, digital logic, microprocessor theory and application, networking, fiber optics and communication lasers, interfacing, bus structures and other applicable courses of study. The course includes the use of higher-level math skills needed to perform diagnostic testing and repair of all types of electronic equipment. Students learn how to use various testing equipment currently in use in the field. Technicians repair inmates' television sets and radios. Students who have finished and completed the course can become technicians.

Facilities:

MacDougall CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Vocational Education

Embracing Fatherhood

Description

Embracing Fatherhood is a program designed to assist incarcerated fathers in gaining awareness of the important role they play in the lives of their children. This awareness will enable participants to successfully embrace their roles as fathers and begin to build healthy lifestyles that will benefit both their children and them.

Facilities:

Bergin CI, Bridgeport CC, Brooklyn CI, Cheshire CI, Corrigan CI, Enfield CI, Garner CI, Gates CI, Manson YI, Osborn CI, Radgowski CI, Robinson CI, Webster CI, Willard-Cybulski CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff, Volunteer Group

Types:

Family

Exercise Class

Description

This program run by the Recreation Department is designed to provide inmates with exercise instruction to improve overall health-fitness. Stretching, walking, jogging and calisthenics provide the basic format of these health skills. Classes are conducted in a low impact aerobic package.

Facilities:

Garner CI

Auspices:

Health Services, Recreation Services

Types:

Health Education

Extended Family Visiting

Description

This program focuses on improving relationships between incarcerated women, their children and family members in order to strengthen and maintain relationships during the period of incarceration. It provides the inmate, an inmate's child and family members an extended period of visitation in a setting separate from regular social visits.

Facilities:

York CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Family

Family Education & Parenting

Description

This program is designed to help inmates with children become responsible parents. Inmates have classes in parenting skills and in some cases read children's books into audio or video-cassettes to send home to their children. Components of the parenting skills classes include parenting from a distance, discipline techniques, and communicating with children.

Facilities:

Bergin CI, Bridgeport CC, Brooklyn CI, Cheshire CI, Corrigan CI, Enfield CI, Gates CI, Hartford CC, MacDougall CI, New Haven CC, Osborn CI, Radgowski CI, Robinson CI, Walker RSMU, Webster CI, Willard-Cybulski CI, York CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff, USD#1

Types:

Family

Family Re-Entry Program

Description

Family Re-entry program offers a comprehensive re-entry program to help individuals and their families make a successful transition from incarceration into the community. A re-entry plan is designed with each individual 3 months before the scheduled release date. Who qualifies? Bridgeport area residents with 3 to 6 months to discharge, firm parole or Transitional Supervision date. Services offered: Individual and family therapy, specialized domestic violence offender programs, substance abuse recovery counseling, life skills programs, parenting education, anger management, Father Helping Fathers groups, connections to service providers for housing, employment and job skills development, health care and financial aid and legal assistance.

Facilities:

Willard-Cybulski CI

Auspices:

Volunteer Services

Types:

Family, Transition

Family Reunification Program

Description

The Family Reunification Program is designed to reconnect fathers being released from the Willard-Cybulski Correctional Institution with their children. This program is primarily designed for inmates with children living in Hartford, New Britain or Manchester. The Family Reunification Program offers Life Skills Workshops to inmates twice weekly, beginning as early as 18 months prior to anticipated release. Under the guidance of staff and volunteer sponsors, inmate fathers meet their children twice monthly and are encouraged to develop healthy, nurturing relationships and in the process to build a support system for the inmate father. Depending upon space availability, inmates who are not from the above described locations may participate in the program workshops.

Facilities:

Willard-Cybulski CI

Auspices:

Contracted Program, Volunteer Services

Types:

Family, Transition

Fatherhood Initiative Program

Description

Families In Crisis, a contracted agency, provides this program. It is designed to promote positive involvement and interaction of non-custodial Fathers with their children. Through the provision of a comprehensive range of services, these men will be better able to fully assume their emotional, educational legal, financial and social roles as fathers.

Facilities:

Manson YI

Auspices:

Contracted Program, Volunteer Services

Types:

Family

FEATS Program (Family, Education, Aids Transition Skills)

Description

This two day program is offered twice a year to foster an awareness of the necessary skills for transition back into the community. Inmates attend workshops throughout this two-day program. Each workshop addresses a different transition development area, e. g., parenting, family, workplace readiness and health.

Facilities:

Enfield CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Family, Transition

Free to Be Me

Description

This program provides offenders the opportunity to meet with a volunteer to define personal needs and to learn to develop a better understanding of self and spirit. Modeled after 12-step programs, a volunteer delivers one-to-one mentoring services guiding the offender to a more complete understanding of self and expectations from others. This program allows inmates the opportunity to combine faith and beliefs with a positive mental attitude for the future.

Facilities:

Gates CI, Radgowski CI, York CI

Auspices:

Addiction Services, Religious Services, Volunteer Services

Types:

Religious

Freedom Calls

Description

A seven part curriculum focusing on principles and methodology for developing a positive mental attitude; creating a healthy vision for the future; Accepting personal responsibility; Goal setting and making a commitment; Building concentration; Overcoming failure. Understanding the importance of others and; Strategies for living successfully.

Facilities:

Bergin CI

Auspices:

Contracted Program, Facility Staff, Volunteer Services

Types:

Self Improvement, Transition

Gang Awareness

Description

Participants examine their involvement in a security risk group and the consequences of that involvement. Group topics include addiction, decision making skills and breaking the cycle of the negative lifestyle. The group meets weekly for eight sessions. This group is offered to designated gang members and gang threat members.

Facilities:

York CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Female SRG

Gang Awareness Program

Description

This is a mandatory 8-week program offered in the Close Monitoring Unit for Security Risk Group members. Inmates must complete this program before they are considered for release from the unit. The program focuses on inmate choices, values and how they have gotten to this point in their lives.

Facilities:

Corrigan CI, Osborn CI

Auspices:

Health Services

Types:

SRG

Garden/Landscape

Description

This program teaches inmates how to grow and care for plants, tree seedlings, shrubs, and flowers. Inmates participating in this program experience a calming effect.

Facilities:

Garner CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff, Recreation Services

Types:

Self Improvement

Gardening/Activity Program

Description

This is a program for mentally ill inmates. Priority is given to inmates who have recently been discharged from inpatient mental health treatment. The goals of the program are to help the impaired inmates to interact with staff and one another, to help them follow instructions, and to help them accomplish limited goals. While attending the group, staff monitor and assist inmates in the areas of personal hygiene, grooming, and appropriate interpersonal behavior. Lower functioning inmates are assisted in developing daily living skills needed to function in a correctional setting.

Facilities:

Garner CI, Osborn CI

Auspices:

Health Services

Types:

Mental Health

General Educational Development (GED)

Description

The GED is the primary program of instruction for students functioning above an eighth grade level who wish to earn a State of Connecticut high school diploma through the examination process. GED Tutors and volunteers assist Department teachers by helping inmates prepare for the GED Exam and/or by helping to teach basic language skills.

Facilities:

Bergin CI, Bridgeport CC, Brooklyn CI, Cheshire CI, Corrigan CI, Enfield CI, Garner CI, Gates CI, Hartford CC, MacDougall CI, Manson YI, New Haven CC, Osborn CI, Radgowski CI, Robinson CI, Walker RSMU, Webster CI, Willard-Cybulski CI, York CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Academic Education

Getting Settled/Getting Going

Description

This is an in cell class that requires the inmate to begin thinking about the choices they have made and how they can begin to make different choices to their situation.

Facilities:

Manson YI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Youth SRG

Girl Scouts Beyond Bars

Description

This program is designed to enhance the relationship between mother and daughter. Volunteers from the Girl Scouts bring daughters of inmates to the facility to participate in creative activities. The group meets on a monthly basis.

Facilities:

York CI

Auspices:

Volunteer Group

Types:

Family

Going Home-Enfield-CI

Description

The Going Home transition program uses a multi-disciplinary approach to offer transition programming to inmates with 2 years or less left on their sentence. This 10-week program provides information and helps develop skills in the following areas: Decision-making/goal-setting, transitioning to the community, reestablishing family relations, getting involved as a community volunteer, getting a driver's license, writing a resume, creating a budget, and making an overall discharge plan.

Facilities:

Enfield CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Family, Transition

Grammar, Diction and Inspiration

Description

This weekly class is geared to youthful offenders to encourage standard English and personal development. Students discuss the rules of grammar, speech patterns and positive personal development issues.

Facilities:

New Haven CC

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Self Improvement

Graphics & Print Technology

Description

The graphic arts/printing course is designed to provide students the opportunity to learn the skills necessary to work in the printing field. Students gain an understanding of the overall printing process to include graphics layout, design, production printing and binding.

Students concentrate on proper shop safety procedures, darkroom techniques and desktop publishing skills. Each student receives "hands on" instruction operating single color offset presses, two color-T-head presses, paper cutters and bindery equipment. Class theory work includes estimating material needs and costs, running small and large production companies, learning terminology related to the field and methods of managing quality control processes. Students learn basic equipment upkeep and care, as well as equipment problem diagnosis and minor equipment repair.

Facilities:

Enfield CI, Gates CI, MacDougall CI, Manson YI, Robinson CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Vocational Education

Graphics Arts Center

Description

This shop produces all types of signage and engraving. Using technologies such as silk-screening and laser engraving, the shop has been able to produce highly technical, complex products. This training and "real world" work experience prepares inmates for obtaining and maintaining a job in the community. Twenty-five inmates are employed in this center. A community service is provided to governmental agencies and non-profit agencies by providing products for them at considerable cost savings.

Facilities:

Cheshire CI

Auspices:

Correctional Enterprises of Connecticut

Types:

Institutional Employment, Vocational Education

Grief and Loss

Description

This group is open to women who have suffered significant loss in their lives and who continue to suffer. It is a facilitated support group with a psychoeducational component.

Facilities:

York CI

Auspices:

Health Services

Types:

Mental Health, Self Improvement

Growth & Empowerment

Description

This group is provided to inmates at the York CI in-patient Mental Health Unit. An ongoing weekly group, it covers such topics as relationships, dealing with feelings, self-esteem, abuse, recovery issues and communication skills.

Facilities:

York CI

Auspices:

Health Services

Types:

Mental Health

Gym Recreation

Description

This group is provided to inmates assigned to mental health housing units. This program, which includes aerobics, basketball, football and baseball, provides the opportunity for inmates to explore how a regularly scheduled aerobic activity can help them improve their cardiovascular system, functional range of motion, gross motor skills and enhancement of mental and emotional well being.

Facilities:

Garner CI

Auspices:

Health Services

Types:

Mental Health

Head-to-Toe Program

Description

This program provides new and slightly used career clothing and accessories for each ensemble to inmates who are being released back into the community. The intent of the program is to outfit the inmate for her first job interview upon release and provide her with additional clothing to carry her through her first week of employment. Priority will be given to inmates who have completed the STEP and STRIDE job readiness programs. This program will help the inmates with their transition from prison to the working world in society and promote self-confidence.

Facilities:

York CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Transition

Health & Healing Group

Description

This a peer support group that provides information and addresses feelings about specific health issues prevalent among incarcerated women.

Facilities:

York CI

Auspices:

Health Services, Volunteer Group

Types:

Health Education

Hepatitis B Vaccination Program

Description

Health Services, through a grant from the Department of Public Health, offers the Hepatitis B Vaccination Series to youths age 19 and under. The program includes an educational component as well as the 3-part vaccination series.

Facilities:

Manson YI, York CI

Auspices:

Health Services

Types:

Health Education

High Risk Infant Program

Description

This weekly group provides prenatal education and support to incarcerated pregnant inmates regarding labor and delivery concerns and parenting skills. A social worker is also available to assist with concerns and questions regarding the post partum placement of the infant.

Facilities:

York CI

Auspices:

Health Services

Types:

Family, Health Education

HIV Counseling, Testing & Risk Reduction Education

Description

When inmates are tested for HIV, the department provides standardized counseling by Department of Public Health certified counselors before and after testing. Counseling components include what HIV and AIDS are, how to get it, how to avoid getting it, what it means to be HIV positive, how to take care of oneself if one is HIV positive, and help in dealing with the associated feelings.

Facilities:

Bergin CI, Bridgeport CC, Brooklyn CI, Cheshire CI, Corrigan CI, Enfield CI, Garner CI, Gates CI, Hartford CC, MacDougall CI, Manson YI, New Haven CC, Northern CI, Osborn CI, Radgowski CI, Robinson CI, Walker RSMU, Webster CI, Willard-Cybulski CI, York CI

Auspices:

Health Services

Types:

Health Education

HIV Positive Support Group

Description

This group shall consist of a minimum of two HIV positive inmates. The purpose of the group shall be to help inmates adjust to their HIV positive status, improve adherence to their anti-viral medication and decrease any additional risks of HIV infection upon their release.

Facilities:

Bergin CI

Auspices:

Health Services

Types:

Health Education

HIV Support Group

Description

The Medical and Mental Health staff conduct this weekly support group for inmates infected with HIV. Although the group is conducted at Osborn-CI, inmates from other facilities in Complex I can attend. The purposes of the group include providing a safe and confidential forum to talk about their disease, to provide accurate and current information, and to encourage medication adherence.

Facilities:

Osborn CI

Auspices:

Health Services

Types:

Health Education

HIV Support Group-New Haven-CC

Description

This program is for HIV inmates. They meet weekly with SA/HIV and Mental Health Counselors.

Facilities:

New Haven CC

Auspices:

Health Services

Types:

Health Education

HIV Support Services

Description

The Department demonstrates a collaborative approach in providing HIV support services to inmates in all facilities. A UCONN (Contracted) Health Services Team coordinates testing and counseling services; the Department's School District conducts classroom instruction about HIV; the Department's Addiction Services Unit Counselors provide HIV education and prevention counseling; a number of volunteers serve as "buddies" or sponsors; and Hartford's Community Partners in Action (CPA) receives funding from foundations, grants as well as support from the state's Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services to operate the "Beyond Fear" Program. Altogether the Department hosts a complete program that includes counseling, testing, education focus groups, videos, intervention strategies and is able to assist discharging inmates with need for such services as housing, medical treatment, food, clothing and transportation.

Facilities:

Bergin CI, Bridgeport CC, Brooklyn CI, Cheshire CI, Corrigan CI, Enfield CI, Garner CI, Gates CI, Hartford CC, MacDougall CI, Manson YI, New Haven CC, Northern CI, Osborn CI, Radgowski CI, Robinson CI, Walker RSMU, Webster CI, Willard-Cybulski CI, York CI

Auspices:

Health Services

Types:

Health Education

HIV Volunteer Support Services

Description

In this program volunteers work with individuals and community-based HIV organizations to provide support services to offenders experiencing HIV related issues.

Facilities:

Enfield CI, Osborn CI, Robinson CI, Willard-Cybulski CI

Auspices:

Health Services, Volunteer Services

Types:

Health Education

Hobby/Crafts Program

Description

The Hobby/Crafts Program is designed to harness and develop inmate talents in the areas of arts and crafts using woodworking, painting, and hobby making skills to build projects. Inmates learn to design, plan and assemble projects using a variety of methods and materials with minimal tools. Products are donated to charitable organizations such as The Hole in the Wall Gang (Hospice), Boys & Girls Clubs, and the National Audubon Society. All shop/safety procedures are stressed and maintained.

Facilities:

Garner CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff, Recreation Services

Types:

Community Service, Self Improvement

Horticulture Program

Description

This course explores the "green industry" and the occupations associated with this field. A variety of skills will be instructed and practiced in preparation for students to enter the trade. Subject areas include the botany of plants and their identification; the design and construction of landscapes; the study of insect pests, pest control and safe use of pesticides; the practice of landscape maintenance and turf management; bedding plant production and greenhouse operations and safe work practices and workplace safety techniques. These skills are easily transferred to the outside job market.

Facilities:

Cheshire CI, Robinson CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Vocational Education

Hospice Program

Description

This program is provided through an interdisciplinary team approach, to provide twenty-four (24) hour compassionate, quality end-of-life care to terminally ill inmates and to view their families and/or those emotionally connected to them as part of the "unit of care". Specially trained inmate volunteers are assigned to provide on-going care and support. Presently this program is available to all terminally ill male inmates in the Connecticut Department of Correction who meet the criteria for transfer into the program at MacDougall-CI.

Facilities:

MacDougall CI

Auspices:

Health Services

Types:

Medical

How to Deal With Your Problems & How to do Your Bid-MYI

Description

This segment of the Youth SRG program helps inmates to embrace a basic understanding of problem solving skills, associating situations and thinking and meaning to feelings, and acceptance of the fact that there is an easier way to complete their time within the Department of Correction.

Facilities:

Manson YI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Youth SRG

How to Study the Bible (Spanish)

Description

Topical instruction in the introductory methods for individual and group bible study. Course length: 4-6 weeks, offered at least twice a year.

Facilities:

Radgowski CI

Auspices:

Religious Services

Types:

Religious

In-Cell and Interactive Technology Program

Description

Through the use of integrated technologies, Walker RSMU provides state of the art interactive In-cell programming to promote safety, reduce inmate idleness and to enhance existing programs, services and training. Programming is broadcast to each cell covering numerous topics such as substance abuse, life skills, educational and religious programs as well as others.

Facilities:

Walker RSMU

Auspices:

Addiction Services, Facility Staff, Health Services, Religious Services, USD#1

Types:

Academic Education, Addiction, Health Education, Religious, Self Improvement

Income Tax Preparation

Description

This program provides students with skills necessary to prepare their state and federal income tax forms.

Facilities:

Brooklyn CI, York CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Self Improvement

Industry Janitors (CEC)

Description

Correctional Enterprises of Connecticut (CEC) operates an extensive industries program at Osborn-CI. One of the services that Correctional Enterprises of Connecticut provides for inmates is the provision of institutional employment by training and supervising a group of industry janitors to insure that the industry area is clean at all times.

Facilities:

Osborn CI

Auspices:

Correctional Enterprises of Connecticut

Types:

Institutional Employment, Vocational Education

Industry Warehouse

Description

This program trains inmates to learn how to work in a warehouse setting. This involves training them to store, pick, pack, and ship industry orders and supplies. These skills are easily transferred to the outside job market.

Facilities:

Osborn CI

Auspices:

Correctional Enterprises of Connecticut

Types:

Institutional Employment, Vocational Education

Inmate Photo Program

Description

Inmates register each month to take either 35 mm or Polaroid photos for a small fee and these photos are sent home or otherwise kept for personal use. Proceeds that are generated are held in a Special Activity Fund. From this fund, thousands of dollars have been donated to local charitable organizations each year, e.g. women's shelters, children's hospitals, youth organizations, and youth at risk programs.

Facilities:

Bridgeport CC, Cheshire CI, Garner CI, Manson YI, New Haven CC

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Community Service

Inner-Circle Mothers' Group

Description

This a group for women who have graduated from the Mothers' Support Group. Participants continue to work on issues they have identified from the Mothers' Support Group.

Facilities:

York CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Family

Inside Greetings

Description

Inmates are given a unique opportunity to develop and maintain their own business and at the same time give back to their community through monetary donations. Inmates use their critical thinking skills to develop and market computer-generated products, i.e. calendars, 8 x 10 photo prints and post cards. They actively problem solve any obstacles in the development of their business. They use reasoning skills to learn about and manage inventory control of supplies, pricing to produce a profit, and marketing strategies. Inmates also learn to develop pride in their work, have a deeper understanding for the business community, and become aware of their global neighborhood by researching local charities and donating all of their profits.

Facilities:

Manson YI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Vocational Education

Intentional Skills Development

Description

This course examines values clarification, healthy choice making, conflict resolution, problem solving and action planning. It is open to anyone who wants to change a course of negative thinking and behavior and learn new skills to help prevent reincarceration. This program is held for 1 1/2 hours, two days a week, for ten weeks and is delivered by a contracted outside agency.

Facilities:

Bergin CI, Brooklyn CI

Auspices:

Contracted Program, Volunteer Services

Types:

Self Improvement

Interpersonal/Assertiveness Training

Description

This group is available to inmates housed in the inpatient mental health unit. It teaches and enhances communication skills, manners, etiquette and appropriate behaviors and responses. It provides psychoeducation about assertiveness, communication skills and domestic violence.

Facilities:

York CI

Auspices:

Health Services

Types:

Self Improvement

Introduction to the Hospitality Industry

Description

This course encompasses management theories and laws, as well as the major areas of the Hospitality Food Service Industry: restaurants, institutions, clubs, and schools. The course forms part of the BCI Tech Prep Program with Manchester Community College. Students are awarded three college credits upon successful completion of the course.

Facilities:

Brooklyn CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Vocational Education

Introductory Algebra

Description

Instruction is provided in variables, graphs, linear, quadratic and rational equations. The course forms part of the BCI Tech Prep Program with Manchester Community College. Students are awarded three college credits upon successful completion of the course.

Facilities:

Brooklyn CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Academic Education

Islamic (Quran) Study

Description

Quran readings are reviewed with inmates. The goal of this program is to help inmates develop self-awareness and personal growth based on Islamic principles.

Facilities:

Bridgeport CC, Brooklyn CI, Cheshire CI, Corrigan CI, Enfield CI, Garner CI, Gates CI, Hartford CC, MacDougall CI, Manson YI, New Haven CC, Robinson CI

Auspices:

Religious Services

Types:

Religious

Islamic Video and Discussion

Description

This is a weekly instructional video and discussion group focused on the historical background of Islam, prayer, customs, and traditions. A short discussion follows each video.

Facilities:

Enfield CI, MacDougall CI, Northern CI, Osborn CI, Robinson CI, Willard-Cybulski CI, York CI

Auspices:

Religious Services, Volunteer Services

Types:

Religious

Issues In Human Sexuality

Description

Group involving lectures, films, discussion and activities focusing on safe sex/birth control while providing clear and correct information concerning the human anatomy and how it functions.

Facilities:

Manson YI

Auspices:

Volunteer Group

Types:

Health Education

Jehovah's Witness Bible Study

Description

Biblical readings are reviewed with inmates. The goal of this program is to help inmates develop self-awareness and personal growth based on Jehovah's Witness principles.

Facilities:

Cheshire CI, Corrigan CI, Enfield CI, Garner CI, MacDougall CI, Manson YI, New Haven CC, Osborn CI, Radgowski CI, Robinson CI, Webster CI, Willard-Cybulski CI, York CI

Auspices:

Religious Services, Volunteer Services

Types:

Religious

Jehovah's Witness Worship Service

Description

This is the weekly Jehovah's Witness worship service.

Facilities:

Robinson CI

Auspices:

Religious Services, Volunteer Services

Types:

Religious

Jewish Worship and Torah Studies

Description

Jewish Worship services and Torah studies are conducted weekly. During the Holy Days, services are celebrated under the supervision of the Religious Coordinator.

Facilities:

Bridgeport CC, Brooklyn CI, Cheshire CI, Corrigan CI, Enfield CI, Garner CI, Gates CI, Hartford CC, MacDougall CI, Manson YI, Northern CI, Osborn CI, Radgowski CI, Robinson CI, Walker RSMU, Webster CI, Willard-Cybulski CI, York CI

Auspices:

Religious Services, Volunteer Services

Types:

Religious, Worship Services

Job Center

Description

The Job Center is designed to help inmates get and maintain a job after release. It does this by providing job readiness training, resume writing, and employment referrals. Specific jobs are located by the Job Center's computer connection to the Department of Labor's Connecticut Job Bank and by using the Department of Correction Job Bank.

Facilities:

Bergin CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Transition

Job Skills

Description

Offenders will face unique challenges in their attempt to obtain employment following release. This two-month course is designed to motivate and prepare offenders to find jobs. Among the topics it covers are when and how to disclose a criminal history and major obstacles offenders face when trying to obtain work.

Facilities:

Bergin CI, Webster CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Transition

Jumah

Description

Jumah is the weekly Muslim worship service.

Facilities:

Bergin CI, Bridgeport CC, Brooklyn CI, Cheshire CI, Corrigan CI, Enfield CI, Garner CI, Gates CI, Hartford CC, MacDougall CI, Manson YI, New Haven CC, Northern CI, Osborn CI, Radgowski CI, Robinson CI, Walker RSMU, Webster CI, Willard-Cybulski CI

Auspices:

Religious Services

Types:

Worship Services

Just for Today

Description

This group is offered to inmates in York CI's protective custody unit. The focus of group changes depending on the assessed needs of the group. Topics include addiction, anger management, relationship issues and self-esteem. The group meets weekly for eight weeks.

Facilities:

York CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Anger Management, Self Improvement

Kairos

Description

This is a 40-hour faith retreat that is held once a year with monthly reunions.

Facilities:

York CI

Auspices:

Religious Services, Volunteer Services

Types:

Religious

Keyboarding

Description

This program teaches inmates the fundamentals of keyboarding. This basic program provides a foundation to further training in the use of computers. This class is offered in eight-week blocks meeting four days per week.

Facilities:

Bergin CI, Brooklyn CI, Radgowski CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Vocational Education

Laundry - Correctional Enterprises of Connecticut

Description

The laundry processes over 150,000 pounds of laundry each month. Correctional Enterprises of Connecticut provides institutional employment to inmates in commercial laundry operations. Correctional Enterprises of Connecticut teaches inmates how to operate industrial laundry equipment.

Facilities:

Osborn CI

Auspices:

Correctional Enterprises of Connecticut

Types:

Institutional Employment, Vocational Education

Learning How to Live

Description

This is a five-week program that meets for an hour and a half each week. The program is based on the video "Learning How to Live by Thomas "Hollywood" Henderson". The main focus is for participants to identify dysfunctional behavior and beliefs in their own lives so they can change the dysfunction in their lives. Self-worth is also examined because it contributes to many of the dysfunctional beliefs and attitudes. Homework is given at each group, and participants must attend all 5 groups to receive a certificate.

Facilities:

Bergin CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Self Improvement

Life Plan

Description

This program prepares inmates for release to the community by deepening their spiritual strength. It consists of a discussion group that utilizes a workbook for religious exercises.

Facilities:

Radgowski CI, York CI

Auspices:

Religious Services, Volunteer Services

Types:

Religious, Transition

Life Plan-Brooklyn

Description

This program is based on How To Escape Your Prison: A Moral Recognition Therapy Work Group. It emphasizes the importance of honest self-appraisal and the need to change one's beliefs, attitudes, and behavior. An important component of the program is an ongoing evaluation of progress by other inmates. Outside mentors are brought into the prison and, when possible, lend assistance post release.

Facilities:

Brooklyn CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff, Volunteer Services

Types:

Self Improvement, Transition

Life Skills Program

Description

This program utilizes teacher instruction and guest lectures to focus on topics needed for students to thrive positively in the community. Subjects such as parenting, job skills training, sexual harassment, HIV/AIDS awareness, cultural diversity and character education are addressed.

Facilities:

Cheshire CI, Manson YI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Self Improvement

Literacy Volunteers of America

Description

An active group of community volunteers, as well as inmate volunteers, contribute hundreds of hours to combat illiteracy for inmates in all of the facilities. Basic reading, vocabulary and comprehension skills are stressed.

Facilities:

Bergin CI, Bridgeport CC, Brooklyn CI, Corrigan CI, Enfield CI, Garner CI, Hartford CC, MacDougall CI, New Haven CC, Osborn CI, Radgowski CI, Robinson CI, Walker RSMU, Webster CI, Willard-Cybulski CI, York CI

Auspices:

USD#1, Volunteer Services

Types:

Academic Education

Machine Tool

Description

This course provides students with a basic understanding and training in the fundamentals and principles of machine tooling. Students study units in machine shop safety, math, blueprint reading, physical properties and identification of metals, measuring instruments, hand tools and machinery. A major area of concentration is machine shop measurement.

Tools that are included in this areas are: rulers, squares, calipers, dividers, protractors, indicators, and micrometers. Hands-on training for the following machinery is also introduced: engine lathe, band saw drill press, surface grinder, Bridgeport milling machine, and vertical miller. Training includes both set-up and operation of these machines.

Facilities:

Robinson CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Vocational Education

Mailing Services

Description

This program utilizes bulk mail machinery. The machinery is the same as operated in the community for bulk mailing. Inmates with such experience are well positioned to get a job in the community. Four inmates are employed in Mailing Services.

Facilities:

Cheshire CI

Auspices:

Correctional Enterprises of Connecticut

Types:

Institutional Employment, Vocational Education

Marker Plate Manufacturing

Description

This manufacturing shop is the sole producer of vehicle plates to the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV). This program provides inmates with an opportunity to work in a setting with all the demands of a private industry job, thus preparing them for a "real world" job. Inmates are required to learn to use hydraulic presses, stamping machines, and painting equipment.

Facilities:

Cheshire CI

Auspices:

Correctional Enterprises of Connecticut

Types:

Institutional Employment, Vocational Education

Marriage/Family Relationships

Description

These weekly classes will give an inmate an opportunity to examine the family as an institution; the dynamics of interpersonal relationships within a family; society's expectations; personal expectations; personal growth issues that are common barriers to effective communication; and the inmate's role within his family. Rotating units of study will include an eight-session series on marital issues which will fulfill pre-marital counseling requirements; parenting via Christian principles; exercising Godly leadership in the home; and more.

Facilities:

Robinson CI

Auspices:

Religious Services, Volunteer Services

Types:

Religious

Master Student

Description

Academic study skills are offered in the areas of text reading, time management, test taking, composition, and memory. Career planning and mentoring also form part of the instruction.

Facilities:

Bergin CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Transition

Medication Compliance Group

Description

This group is provided to inmates assigned to mental health housing units. It focuses on knowledge of the purpose of medication including actions, dose and side effects and the role of medication in the maintenance of health. The purpose of the group is to encourage medication compliance.

Facilities:

Garner CI

Auspices:

Health Services

Types:

Mental Health

Meditation Group - Social Rehabilitation Program

Description

The participants are instructed and led in the practice of meditation by one of the institution's chaplains. The goal of this group is spiritual and therapeutic insofar as anxiety disorders respond well to meditation/relaxation techniques. It meets twice weekly and is offered to inmates residing in York CI's Social Rehabilitation Housing Unit.

Facilities:

York CI

Auspices:

Health Services, Religious Services

Types:

Self Improvement, Social Rehabilitation

Mental Health Support Group

Description

This group is co-lead by mental health and community volunteers and focuses on self-help for dealing with depression or bipolar illness.

Facilities:

Garner CI

Auspices:

Health Services, Volunteer Services

Types:

Mental Health

Metal Working Shop

Description

This program teaches inmates how to utilize high-tech metal working equipment. This including welding equipment; mig, tig and spot, CNC equipment; shears and brakes and various other machinery; grinders, punching machines, notchers etc.. The shop fabricates many types of metal and sheet metal products; institutional beds, lockers writing tables etc..

Facilities:

MacDougall CI

Auspices:

Correctional Enterprises of Connecticut

Types:

Institutional Employment, Vocational Education

Micro Computers/Computer Education

Description

The MicroComputer Software Application Technology course is designed to provide students with an introduction to computer operations and with the application of various software packages and programs. Students begin by learning simple software programs and then progress to more sophisticated packages as their individual skills develop. Software programs introduced include but are not limited to the following: Access, Visual Basics, Adobe Pagemaker, Excel, WordPerfect, MicroSoft Works, Power Point, Micro-Soft Word, Micro-Soft for Windows, and PageMaker. Students design and complete projects using this software.

Facilities:

Brooklyn CI, Cheshire CI, Enfield CI, MacDougall CI, Manson YI, Osborn CI, Robinson CI, York CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Vocational Education

Mindful Living Meditation

Description

This program teaches meditation skills and assists participants in reducing stress and finding serenity. Inmates meet weekly for eight sessions.

Facilities:

York CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff, Health Services, Volunteer Services

Types:

Female CDU, Self Improvement

Mothers' Support Group

Description

This group assists incarcerated women to identify and understand their own emotions and their children's needs. It focuses on responsible and effective parenting, as well as mother-child relationships. The group meets weekly for six sessions.

Facilities:

York CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Family

Narcotics Anonymous

Description

Narcotics Anonymous is a twelve-step fellowship of addicts helping addicts to recover from the disease of addiction. Meetings, in a variety of formats (Step Meetings, Speaker, Speaker/Discussion, etc.), are held on a weekly basis. The meetings are usually conducted by outside volunteers who share their story of addiction and recovery. Addiction Services staff coordinate the meetings and provide oversight for the program.

Facilities:

Bergin CI, Bridgeport CC, Brooklyn CI, Cheshire CI, Enfield CI, Gates CI, MacDougall CI, Manson YI, New Haven CC, Osborn CI, Radgowski CI, Robinson CI, Webster CI, Willard-Cybulski CI, York CI

Auspices:

Addiction Services, Volunteer Services

Types:

Addiction

Narcotics Anonymous - Spanish

Description

This Narcotics Anonymous Meeting is conducted in Spanish. Narcotics Anonymous is a twelve-step fellowship of addicts helping addicts to recover from the disease of addiction.

Meetings are held on weekly basis. The meetings are usually conducted by outside volunteers who share their story of addiction and recovery. Addiction Services staff coordinate the meetings and provide oversight for the program.

Facilities:

Brooklyn CI

Auspices:

Addiction Services, Volunteer Services

Types:

Addiction

Native American Video and Discussion

Description

This is a weekly instructional video and discussion group that focuses on the historical background of the 500 nations of native people, their customs, and traditions. A short discussion follows each video.

Facilities:

Brooklyn CI, Enfield CI, MacDougall CI, Northern CI, Osborn CI, Robinson CI

Auspices:

Religious Services, Volunteer Services

Types:

Religious

Native American Worship

Description

Sacred Circle is a community prayer, which includes smudging. It is celebrated weekly.

Facilities:

Brooklyn CI, Cheshire CI, Enfield CI, Garner CI, MacDougall CI, Northern CI, Osborn CI, Robinson CI, Willard-Cybulski CI

Auspices:

Religious Services, Volunteer Services

Types:

Religious, Worship Services

Native American Worship-Sweat Lodge

Description

Sweat lodge is a purification ceremony, which includes smudging. It is celebrated monthly.

Facilities:

Cheshire CI, Enfield CI, MacDougall CI, Osborn CI

Auspices:

Religious Services

Types:

Worship Services

Occupational Therapy-Therapeutic Recreation

Description

This group is available to inmates assigned to in-patient mental health units. Participants learn to follow simple and multi-step directions and to utilize eye-hand coordination. It emphasizes focusing on specific tasks and improving concentration as well as exploring relaxation through arts and crafts. It utilizes discussion, structured activities and audio/video materials.

Facilities:

York CI

Auspices:

Health Services

Types:

Mental Health

Office Systems Shop

Description

This shop manufactures office systems, which are moveable panels/partitions designed to create workspace for clerical and managerial staff within an office environment. This program exposes inmates to a "real world" manufacturing/assembly environment.

Facilities:

MacDougall CI

Auspices:

Correctional Enterprises of Connecticut

Types:

Institutional Employment, Vocational Education

Optical Technician

Description

The optician's program is a five-year comprehensive program leading to state licensure as a state certified optician. Theory is taught on eyewear fabrication and manufacturing lenses from a doctor's prescription. The program also includes units on lens design, geometric and mechanical optics, anatomy and physiology of the eye, and diseases of the eye. After licensure students are ready to enter the job market as state licensed opticians.

Facilities:

MacDougall CI

Auspices:

Correctional Enterprises of Connecticut

Types:

Institutional Employment, Vocational Education

Parent - Child Topics Group

Description

This is a volunteer facilitated group that focuses on different areas specific to parenting. Topics include the effects of violence in the home on children, understanding childrens' feelings as related to their behaviors, child self-esteem and positive methods of discipline.

Facilities:

York CI

Auspices:

Volunteer Services

Types:

Family

Parent Education Group

Description

This program teaches parenting skills and is facilitated by contracted staff from the Families in Crisis Agency. It addresses issues of family systems, communication, human development, child development and discipline. The group meets weekly for six sessions.

Facilities:

York CI

Auspices:

Contracted Program

Types:

Family

Parenting Class

Description

This parenting class explores parenting skills, touching on a variety of subjects. It utilizes guest speakers, videos, classroom activities and written assignments.

Facilities:

Bergin CI, Radgowski CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff, Volunteer Services

Types:

Family

Parenting From a Distance Group

Description

This is a support group for inmates with children that helps inmates identify and explore the special problems they face due to separation from their children. This group meets weekly for six sessions.

Facilities:

York CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Family

Parenting Skills

Description

This program teaches parenting skills and is facilitated by facility staff. The program addresses positive parenting approaches and increased knowledge of parenting issues. The program is offered weekly for six sessions.

Facilities:

Brooklyn CI, York CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Family

Parenting Skills Group

Description

This program is designed to teach inmates about good parenting and to help them develop skills needed to be effective and responsible parents.

Facilities:

Webster CI

Auspices:

Health Services

Types:

Family

Parenting Skills-MYI

Description

This program assists young fathers in developing basic parenting skills. The program is run in conjunction with Families in Crisis.

Facilities:

Manson YI

Auspices:

Health Services

Types:

Family

Parenting: The Extended You

Description

The Extended You is a program designed for fathers, which is presented in fourteen one-hour sessions. Through videos, discussions and lectures, the inmates learn how to become a more effective and confident parent. Some of the subjects discussed are family dynamics, emotional development, understanding misbehavior, the effects of incarceration on families and building trust.

Facilities:

Gates CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Family

Parents Anonymous

Description

This is a self-help group for current or prospective fathers that primarily focuses on strategies to help inmates gain the ability to deal more effectively with their children.

Facilities:

Osborn CI

Auspices:

Volunteer Services

Types:

Family

Peer Mentor Program

Description

Peer Mentors are Tier program graduates who assist Addiction Services staff in the presentation of Tier program groups and 12-Step Fellowship groups. The primary purpose of Peer Mentors is to model a recovery lifestyle for other program participants. Weekly training meetings are required for all Peer Mentors.

Facilities:

Brooklyn CI, Cheshire CI, Enfield CI, Gates CI, MacDougall CI, Manson YI, Osborn CI, Radgowski CI, Robinson CI, Willard-Cybulski CI, York CI

Auspices:

Addiction Services

Types:

Addiction

PEP - People Empowering People

Description

This program provides educational training in values clarification, communication skills, problem solving and parenting. The program builds on personal strengths, providing opportunities for participants to gain skills while they take greater control of their own lives.

Facilities:

York CI

Auspices:

Volunteer Services

Types:

Self Improvement

Personal Finance

Description

This program is designed to acquaint students with various types of insurance, mortgages, and investments as well as how to buy automobiles, open and maintain a bank account.

Facilities:

Brooklyn CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Self Improvement

Phase III - Security Risk Group Awareness

Description

Participants examine their involvement in security risk groups and the consequences of that involvement. Unhealthy relationships and addictive behavior are discussed.

Facilities:

York CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Female SRG, Self Improvement

Post Traumatic Stress Group

Description

This group assists the inmate to deal with past life traumas that influence the quality of life of the inmate. It utilizes relaxation technique, group discussion and conflict resolution.

Facilities:

Garner CI

Auspices:

Health Services

Types:

Mental Health

Post-Secondary Programs

Description

College and Correspondence Courses are offered in an effort to encourage or prepare students for ongoing educational opportunities (Students pay a tuition and book fee for college courses). One of the main goals is to be able to provide well-behaved inmates an opportunity to be engaged in self-development.

Facilities:

Bergin CI, Brooklyn CI, Cheshire CI, Enfield CI, Gates CI, Manson YI, Osborn CI, Radgowski CI, Robinson CI, Webster CI, Willard-Cybulski CI, York CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Academic Education

Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder Group

Description

This is a group specifically for persons with a diagnosis of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). Participants are expected to have a least begun Dialectical Behavioral Therapy skills training before delving into their trauma histories in the group. This group is available to inmates residing in the Social Rehabilitation Program.

Facilities:

York CI

Auspices:

Health Services

Types:

Mental Health

Pre-Marital Preparation Class and Personal Growth Group

Description

In this program personality, motivational, gender development, emotional and spiritual principles are examined with the youths. The goal of this program is to help the incarcerated prospective husbands to develop a greater understanding of healthy relationships within the arena of marriage as well as to grow personally.

Facilities:

Manson YI

Auspices:

Religious Services, Volunteer Services

Types:

Family

Pre-Release Information Group

Description

Offenders are given the opportunity to attend a group session 30 days prior to their discharge during which they are given information about services available to them in the community. A one-on-one follow-up is then offered to them where they are able to make contact with any service agencies that may assist them upon release.

Facilities:

Brooklyn CI, Radgowski CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff, USD#1, Volunteer Services

Types:

Transition

Pre-Release Program

Description

This ongoing group offers information on community support groups and resources to assist offenders in successfully reintegrating into the community.

Facilities:

Bergin CI, York CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Transition

Pre-Release Seminar

Description

This is a ten-session program that prepares inmates for release into the community.

Facilities:

Radgowski CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Transition

Pre-Release Training

Description

This program presents Information about community resources to help participants successfully re-enter the community after release. The group meets weekly on an ongoing basis.

Facilities:

York CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Transition

Pre-Vocational

Description

This course of study centers around twenty-two hands-on introductory modules including carpentry, household electrical, plumbing, small engines, computer aided drafting and electronics. This is a course of study that provides a foundation upon which an inmate can build a vocation.

Facilities:

Cheshire CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Vocational Education

Preventing Sexual Assault

Description

This video-based program is designed to help inmates avoid being sexually assaulted during their incarceration. It is integrated into the department's assessment process for newly admitted inmates.

Facilities:

Manson YI, Walker RSMU

Auspices:

Facility Staff, Offender Class & Pop Mgt. Assess Unit

Types:

Domestic Violence, Victim

Principles of Christian Manhood

Description

Using examples of great men of God, principles of godliness are extrapolated by the leader to apply to personal faith walk. It meets weekly.

Facilities:

Bergin CI

Auspices:

Religious Services

Types:

Religious

Print Shop

Description

This shop operates a full range of printing equipment including two-color and four-color printing presses, desktop publishing computers and high-speed bindery equipment. Inmates assigned to this shop learn a skill that is easily transferred to the outside job market.

Facilities:

Osborn CI

Auspices:

Correctional Enterprises of Connecticut

Types:

Institutional Employment, Vocational Education

Prison Fellowship Group

Description

This group uses material from the Prison Fellowship Weekly Lesson Plan Guide and the Bible. It meets weekly.

Facilities:

Bergin CI, Webster CI

Auspices:

Religious Services, Volunteer Services

Types:

Religious

Prison PUP Partnership Program

Description

This program trains puppies to assist the disabled in their home and community settings. While trained dogs are extraordinarily helpful to disabled individuals, the training is extremely labor-intensive and averages 18 months. This program, using inmate-trainers, is able to intensify and significantly shorten the training period, thereby increasing the amount of time these dogs will serve. In addition to providing an invaluable community service, involved inmates learn skills such as decision-making, responsibility, and care-giving.

Facilities:

York CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff, Volunteer Services

Types:

Community Service, Self Improvement

Prisoner Outreach Program (POP)

Description

The program consists of inmates being transported to community settings where they share their experiences with at-risk youth. This program is designed to reach out and change the direction of the lives of at-risk youths in communities and schools before they end up in prison. The Prisoner Outreach Program meets with at-risk youths and provides them with a unique opportunity to obtain a realistic view of prison life and the reality of serving time. The youths learn how drug and alcohol abuse and criminal behavior ruined the lives of men incarcerated in Connecticut. They also learn how to change their lives in a positive way to avoid being sentenced to prison.

Facilities:

Enfield CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Community Service, Self Improvement

Project Johnson

Description

Youth-At Risk tours are conducted at the facility for at-risk juveniles from various agencies statewide. Project Johnson is a cooperative venture between the Manchester Youth Service Bureau, The Manchester Police Department, and the Hartford and York Correctional Facilities. Project Johnson is a diversion program for "at risk" youths in which they get to see first hand the inner workings of a correctional facility. The youths are permitted to enter the housing of the general inmate population; this is crucial in allowing the youths to feel the fear, vulnerability, anxiety and apprehension of incarceration. The majority of youths who get into trouble today don't fear the possibility of imprisonment because it is so abstract to them. The goal of Project Johnson is to show these youths the "reality" of prison incarceration, resulting in less recidivism and violations of probation. The prison tour shows these youths the negative consequences of poor choices. In addition the Project shows them the positive consequences of good choices: selected groups now spend the afternoon at Manchester Community College. The youths are given a tour of the campus, including the computer labs, sports and arts facilities and student activity centers. The program sends the message to the youths that they can be successful in school and in life, if they choose to be.

Facilities:

Hartford CC, York CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Community Service, Self Improvement

Project Rap/Youth at Risk

Description

This is an educational community service provided by the community outreach staff and inmates addressing the results of poor decision-making. It reaches middle schools and high schools and addresses issues such as drugs, alcohol, HIV, peer pressure, gangs and violence, incarcerated life and life goals. Inmates are brought into the community middle schools and high school to speak about their experiences. Community youth are also brought into the facility for tours and inmate presentations. This is a diversion program for "at risk" youths in which these youths are shown the reality of prison incarceration. The youths tour the facility and see the negative consequences of poor choices.

Facilities:

Brooklyn CI, Radgowski CI, York CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Community Service

Project Reach

Description

Project Reach is a facility based community outreach program designed to challenge young people in our communities to make positive choices in their lives. Through the use of oral presentations by inmate participants, the audience is invited to explore their own behaviors and the likely consequences of poor choices. This program is conducted by correctional counselors and correctional officers and approximately fifteen inmates. These inmates are carefully screened and trained in order that presentations are appropriate and conducive to the purpose of the programs.

Facilities:

Gates CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Community Service

Protestant - Alpha Program

Description

Protestant - Alpha program meets weekly and is conducted by both volunteers and staff.

Facilities:

Cheshire CI

Auspices:

Religious Services, Volunteer Services

Types:

Religious

Protestant Bible Study

Description

Biblical readings are reviewed with inmates. The goal of this program is to help inmates develop self-awareness and personal growth based on Christian principles.

Facilities:

Bergin CI, Bridgeport CC, Brooklyn CI, Cheshire CI, Corrigan CI, Enfield CI, Garner CI, Gates CI, Hartford CC, MacDougall CI, Manson YI, New Haven CC, Northern CI, Osborn CI, Radgowski CI, Robinson CI, Walker RSMU, Webster CI, Willard-Cybulski CI, York CI

Auspices:

Religious Services, Volunteer Services

Types:

Religious

Protestant Bible Study (Spanish)

Description

Biblical readings are reviewed with Spanish inmates. The goal of this program is to help inmates develop self-awareness and personal growth based on Christian principles.

Facilities:

Bergin CI, Brooklyn CI, Enfield CI, Garner CI, Gates CI, Hartford CC, MacDougall CI, New Haven CC, Osborn CI, Radgowski CI, Robinson CI, Walker RSMU, Willard-Cybulski CI, York CI

Auspices:

Religious Services, Volunteer Services

Types:

Religious

Protestant Prison Fellowship Seminar

Description

This is a weekend faith development seminar held twice yearly.

Facilities:

MacDougall CI, Webster CI, York CI

Auspices:

Religious Services, Volunteer Services

Types:

Religious

Protestant Rap Group

Description

This is an open-ended question/answer type of group which focuses on "problem solving" in the application of Christian principles in a prison setting.

Facilities:

Bergin CI

Auspices:

Religious Services

Types:

Religious

Protestant Service

Description

This is the weekly Protestant worship service.

Facilities:

Bergin CI, Bridgeport CC, Brooklyn CI, Cheshire CI, Corrigan CI, Enfield CI, Garner CI, Gates CI, Hartford CC, MacDougall CI, Manson YI, New Haven CC, Northern CI, Osborn CI, Radgowski CI, Robinson CI, Walker RSMU, Webster CI, Willard-Cybulski CI, York CI

Auspices:

Religious Services, Volunteer Services

Types:

Worship Services

Protestant Service (Spanish)

Description

This is the weekly Protestant worship service conducted in Spanish.

Facilities:

Bergin CI, Brooklyn CI, Enfield CI, Garner CI, Gates CI, Hartford CC, MacDougall CI, New Haven CC, Osborn CI, Radgowski CI, Robinson CI, Willard-Cybulski CI

Auspices:

Religious Services, Volunteer Services

Types:

Worship Services

Protestant Support Group

Description

A therapeutic discussion session which focuses on peer support for a Christian lifestyle within the prison environment.

Facilities:

Bergin CI

Auspices:

Religious Services

Types:

Religious

Protestant Video and Musical

Description

This is the weekly Christian Video and Music program.

Facilities:

Bridgeport CC

Auspices:

Religious Services

Types:

Religious

Psychiatric Symptoms Group

Description

This group assists the inmate to understand and recognize the signs and symptoms of their illness and various interventions that can be utilized.

Facilities:

Garner CI

Auspices:

Health Services

Types:

Mental Health

Psychosocial Education Group-Social Rehabilitation Program

Description

This program is offered to inmates in mental health housing. Various topics are introduced with a view to educating the participants in psychosocial skills, such as how to deal with relationship issues and interpersonal conflict. Basic living skills such as hygiene and organizing one's personal schedule are covered. The group meets weekly.

Facilities:

York CI

Auspices:

Health Services

Types:

Mental Health, Social Rehabilitation

Public Speaking

Description

This program is modeled after (Toastmasters International), can accommodate up to twenty (20) inmates and will be conducted weekly. It is open ended and inmates can join in as others exit. The program is designed to develop the art of speaking, listening and thinking to promote self-esteem, enhance leadership potential and foster human understanding in a positive and supportive learning environment.

Facilities:

Gates CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff, Volunteer Services

Types:

Self Improvement

Re-Entry Program

Description

This is a program designed to help inmates make a successful transition to the community. Topics include "understanding and breaking the prison mentality," how to transition back to family and friends, creating a budget, and accessing needed services. Inmates are helped to obtain a Social Security Card, motor vehicle license, and other forms of identification. The program encourages and helps inmates to use community-based services such as AA & NA. Those inmates not returning to a family or supervised residential placement are assisted in locating affordable housing.

Facilities:

Osborn CI

Auspices:

Health Services, Volunteer Services

Types:

Family, Transition

Read to Your Children

Description

This program is designed to foster a bond between a child and his/her incarcerated parent. USD#1 creates and maintains a collection of children's books. Inmates can select from a book and read to their child during regular visiting hours. In some cases, inmates enrolled in school can read a book and be videotaped and then send the tape and book to the child.

Facilities:

Bergin CI, Brooklyn CI, Cheshire CI, Enfield CI, Gates CI, Manson YI, Radgowski CI, Robinson CI, Webster CI, Willard-Cybulski CI, York CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Family

Ready Set Go Home

Description

This is a twelve-week program that covers a range of topics related to successfully returning to the community.

Facilities:

MacDougall CI, Walker RSMU

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Transition

Recovery Group - York

Description

This group assists inmates in learning the recovery process and strategies to stay sober from mood altering substances. Topics include dealing with high risk situations and coping with cravings. This group meets weekly for ten sessions.

Facilities:

York CI

Auspices:

Addiction Services

Types:

Addiction

Rehabilitating the Self

Description

This group focuses on developing and expanding self-esteem. The group helps inmates to examine their interpersonal communication styles and to develop new, more effective communication styles. Inmates are taught how self-esteem and self-image affect all aspects of their lives and decisions and choices they make.

Facilities:

York CI

Auspices:

Health Services

Types:

Self Improvement

Relapse Prevention Substance Abuse - York

Description

This program for community release eligible inmates is designed to prepare them for the challenges of re-entry into the community. This program focuses on strategies to prevent relapse from mood-altering substances. Topics include coping skills and transition to the community. This weekly group meets for ten sessions.

Facilities:

York CI

Auspices:

Addiction Services

Types:

Addiction, Transition

Relapse Prevention-MYI

Description

This group will only be offered to inmates repeating the Close Monitoring Program. It is designed to help inmates understand the concepts related to relapse into gang behavior.

Facilities:

Manson YI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Youth SRG

Relationship Issues Group

Description

This program assists participants in developing healthy relationships. Belief systems are challenged in order to help participants make healthy choices and practice positive behaviors. This group meets weekly for ten sessions.

Facilities:

York CI

Auspices:

Addiction Services

Types:

Self Improvement

Relationship Skills Group

Description

This group meets once per week and is available to inmates housed in the inpatient Mental Health Unit. This group explores interpersonal relationship and communication styles to gain a greater understanding of relationships and effective communication. This group also explores how self-esteem and self-image affect our relationship choices. The group provides psychoeducation about healthy and abusive relationships.

Facilities:

York CI

Auspices:

Health Services

Types:

Mental Health

Religious Library

Description

This is a chaplain-guided use of written religious material such as: Catholic periodicals, daily reflective monthlies, newspapers and books with religious themes.

Facilities:

Bergin CI

Auspices:

Religious Services

Types:

Religious

Resource Center

Description

This center provides inmates with the resources for their reintegration into the community.

Facilities:

Bergin CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Transition

Sacred Academy of Faith Development

Description

This group offers college level courses on Theological and Biblical issues. This group is conducted once per week.

Facilities:

York CI

Auspices:

Religious Services, Volunteer Services

Types:

Religious

Salvation: Beginning with Christ (Spanish)

Description

An examination of the core beliefs of Protestant Christians regarding the role and work of Christ in offering restoration of humanity's relationship with God. Course length: 9-11 weeks, offered at least twice a year.

Facilities:

Radgowski CI

Auspices:

Religious Services

Types:

Religious

Security Risk Group Safety Threat Unit (SRGT) - How to Deal with Your Problems and How to Do Your Bid

Description

This is a group designed for inmates on SRGT status. One of the problems which many inmates have in general and restrictive housing inmates have in particular, is that they lack the skills necessary for problem solving. The first part of this class is designed to help inmates learn that not all problems can be solved and to assist them in approaching problems so as to (1) respond in the best way to the presented problem and (2) not to make the situation worse. In the second part of the class the inmates review a videotape which shows inmates who have completed a restrictive housing program. In that video the inmates discuss what they believe is necessary in order to "do your bid." The video serves as a stimulus for inmates to discuss how it is possible to live in a prison environment without getting into trouble.

Facilities:

Northern CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

SRG

Security Risk Group Safety Threat Members (SRGT) - Building the Ladder

Description

This class is a component of the SRGT program. In this class inmates are encouraged to analyze past experiences and build a realistic and achievable plan for the future.

Facilities:

Northern CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

SRG

Security Risk Group Safety Threat Unit (SRGT) - Relapse Prevention

Description

This class is a component of the SRGT program. It is designed to help inmates understand and avoid relapse. In order to reach this class in the program the inmate has had to be behaving himself and interacting appropriately with other inmates and staff. This group is designed to help inmates examine the issues that might result in a relapse of the problematic behavior which resulted in their placement in the SRGT program.

Facilities:

Northern CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

SRG

Security Risk Group Safety Threat Unit (SRGT) - Bridge Group

Description

This class is one component of the SRGT program. It is designed to (1) review all the concepts taught in the previous classes; (2) afford an opportunity for senior management in the facility to interact with inmates and evaluate program progress; (3) to help inmates think about and plan the next step in the three-phase SRGT program.

Facilities:

Northern CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

SRG

Security Risk Group Safety Threat Unit (SRGT) - Orientation and *Communication*

Description

This SRGT class is the first offered to inmates in the Phase Program. Research into causes of violence among inmates reveals that frequently there is a breakdown in communication or poor communication skills. This group is designed to assist inmates in improving communication skills.

Facilities:

Northern CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

SRG

Self Management and Recovery Training

Description

S.M.A.R.T. meets once a week for ten weeks. It is an abstinence-based self management-recovery-training program for SRG inmates experiencing addictive behavior problems. S.M.A.R.T. focuses on enhancing motivation; reversing destructive lifestyle, refusing to act on urges to use; managing life's problems in a sensible and effective way and developing a positive, balanced and healthy lifestyle.

Facilities:

Osborn CI

Auspices:

Addiction Services, Facility Staff

Types:

Addiction, SRG

Self-Change Group

Description

This group assists participants in identifying how thinking patterns and socialization have affected their behavior. It addresses how alternative thought and communication patterns can create positive behavioral changes. This program is offered to inmates who exhibit problematic behaviors within the facility or who are gang threat members. These inmates are housed in the restrictive housing unit.

Facilities:

York CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Female SRG, Self Improvement

Sesame Street

Description

This is a weekend program offered to inmates' children from 3 to 11 years of age. Inmate caregivers work with these children under the supervision of staff from a contracted provider, Families in Crisis. When families visit inmates their children are given the opportunity to play games or engage in other age-appropriate and fun activities. In order for the inmates to become caretakers they are carefully screened by DOC staff. In addition, they receive a 16-week training session.

Facilities:

Osborn CI, York CI

Auspices:

Contracted Program, Volunteer Services

Types:

Family

SET ME FREE Pre-Release Group

Description

This group is for women who have two (2) months or less on their sentences. The group will consist of 12 women and will run for a cycle of four weeks. Broken down into four 1 1/2 hour sessions. Each group commences with a 25-minute video followed by a discussion and or role play. The videos are entitled "Success after Prison" and focus on reducing recidivism, cognitive intervention, and changing the mindset toward a positive attitude. Topics covered include: blame/victim patterns; taking responsibility for your life; conflict/anger management; positive benefits from prison (GED, vocation-training etc.), forgiveness/restoring relationships. Strong emphasis will be placed on role play on employment skills: i.e. interview conduct; completing application forms, etc.

Facilities:

York CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Anger Management, Transition

Sex Offender Program

Description

The Sex Offender Program is a specialized program for inmates who have committed a sexual assault. The program is provided by mental health staff with specialized training in the treatment of sex offenders. The overall goal of the program is to decrease sexual violence. The program teaches inmates about the nature of sexual assault, helping them develop an individualized relapse prevention strategy for themselves, helping them improve the quality of normal interpersonal relationships, helping them better manage their anger, and helping them develop victim empathy.

Facilities:

Brooklyn CI, Cheshire CI, Garner CI, MacDougall CI, Manson YI, Osborn CI, York CI

Auspices:

Health Services

Types:

Anger Management, Sex Offender

Small Engine Repair

Description

This program instructs students in the repair of two-cycle, four cycle and marine engines. It uses both hands-on training and theory classes. Group/individual instruction is offered by a qualified supervisor and periodic tests in theory and practice are administered. This program is very useful to inmates seeking employment in the community.

Facilities:

Enfield CI, Manson YI, Osborn CI, Robinson CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Vocational Education

Special Education and Pupil Services

Description

The special education teachers, pupil services specialists (School Psychologists, School Counselors, School Social Workers), and the associated clerical and durational staff provide services to students with handicapping conditions which interfere with their ability to participate in school. These services are mandated by federal (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act Amendments of 1997) and state (Connecticut General Statutes 10-76) statute. Special education services encompass a broad array of activities including assessment, counseling, transition planning, and both the direct and indirect (e.g. consultation) services of the special education teachers and pupil services staff. Student programs are designed according to the individual needs of each student with disabilities and are specified in an Individualized Education Plan (IEP.)

Facilities:

Bergin CI, Bridgeport CC, Brooklyn CI, Cheshire CI, Corrigan CI, Enfield CI, Garner CI, Gates CI, Hartford CC, MacDougall CI, Manson YI, New Haven CC, Northern CI, Osborn CI, Radgowski CI, Robinson CI, Walker RSMU, Webster CI, Willard-Cybulski CI, York CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Academic Education

Sponsorship Behind the Walls

Description

This program is designed for inmates participating in a 12-step recovery program. It enables participants to write to an outside sponsor in order to work the 12 steps of recovery.

Facilities:

Bridgeport CC, Brooklyn CI, Cheshire CI, Corrigan CI, Enfield CI, Garner CI, Gates CI, Hartford CC, MacDougall CI, New Haven CC, Northern CI, Osborn CI, Radgowski CI, Robinson CI, Walker RSMU, Webster CI, Willard-Cybulski CI, York CI

Auspices:

Addiction Services, Volunteer Services

Types:

Addiction

Steer Straight

Description

In this program specially screened inmates leave the facility under the supervision of an education department staff member to speak to students throughout the state about their lives before coming to prison, their lives in prison, and their future plans. The purpose is to deter students in the community from criminal activity in a respectful, non-threatening forum.

Facilities:

Webster CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Community Service, Self Improvement

Steps to Christian Maturity

Description

These weekly classes will address spiritual growth from the initial phase of becoming a follower of Christ. Participants will apply the principles found in scripture to their life experiences. Through self-examination, prayer, and weekly study the participant will learn necessary tools for developing a closer walk with God. Materials used will include Bibles, and workbooks. Instruction will include lectures, video presentations, and class discussion.

Facilities:

Robinson CI

Auspices:

Religious Services, Volunteer Services

Types:

Religious

Stress and Anger Management

Description

This restrictive housing program assists participants in identifying physical changes, feelings and behaviors in which they engage when they become stressed or angry. The program is offered to inmates who exhibit problematic behavior within the facility, including gang threat members.

Facilities:

York CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Anger Management, Female SRG, Self Improvement

Stride Program

Description

The Stride Program is a service designed to provide incarcerated or paroled individuals who meet specific criteria with resources such as housing, employment and clothing. Unified School District #1 staff provide Stride with names of eligible inmates who they can meet within the facility to assist with transition plans prior to release.

Facilities:

York CI

Auspices:

Contracted Program, USD#1

Types:

Transition

Strive Program

Description

STRIVE is a program operated by a number not-for-profit affiliates. Its main goal is to help people get and keep jobs. STRIVE emphasizes developing the kinds of attitudes that are necessary to get and keep a job. It actively assists in job placement for graduates and offers two-year long-term post placement support to help its graduates with whatever problem that threatens their continued success. In this collaborative effort, STRIVE and the Department of Correction staff enrolls the inmates in an intensive three-week program, to begin upon discharge from the facility. The objective of this collaborative program is to keep the participants from returning to the Department of Correction by helping them change their attitude, get a job, and keep the job.

Facilities:

Bergin CI, Bridgeport CC, Gates CI, Manson YI, Osborn CI, Webster CI, Willard-Cybulski CI, York CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff, Volunteer Group

Types:

Transition

Substance Abuse Relapse Prevention

Description

This is an ongoing program that meets for one hour a week. It is facilitated by Addiction Services staff and addresses issues of substance abuse relapse.

Facilities:

Bergin CI

Auspices:

Addiction Services

Types:

Addiction

Success Stories

Description

This is a four-session group that examines how former offenders have found their way to becoming law-abiding productive members of society.

Facilities:

Corrigan CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Self Improvement

Supportive Therapy

Description

This program is open to all who sign up. It is intended to serve as an outlet for inmates who often express concerns for the future as they approach discharge.

Facilities:

York CI

Auspices:

Health Services

Types:

Transition

Survivors of Abuse

Description

This program focuses on providing a supportive environment in which participants can heal from physical, sexual and emotional abuse. The group is ongoing and meets weekly.

Facilities:

York CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff, Health Services

Types:

Self Improvement

Survivors of Sexual Abuse/Trauma & Empowerment

Description

This group provides a safe environment where victims of sexual abuse can share their experience, beliefs about abuse and begin the healing process. The group helps participants gain insight into how abuse has influenced their lives and how to increase their self-esteem.

Facilities:

York CI

Auspices:

Health Services

Types:

Self Improvement

Taking Care

Description

This is a ten-week parenting program that focuses on fathers. It teaches effective communication and problem solving skills for issues related to family.

Facilities:

Gates CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Family

Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL)

Description

TESOL is an instructional program for students whose primary language is not English. TESOL instruction helps students to speak, read and write English or assists them in developing the language skills necessary for overall academic and vocational progress.

Facilities:

Bergin CI, Bridgeport CC, Brooklyn CI, Cheshire CI, Corrigan CI, Garner CI, Gates CI, Hartford CC, MacDougall CI, Manson YI, New Haven CC, Osborn CI, Radgowski CI, Robinson CI, Walker RSMU, Webster CI, Willard-Cybulski CI, York CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Academic Education

Tech Prep Program

Description

This is a program that offers opportunities for high school students to earn college credits through work with Community Colleges and USD#1 teachers.

Facilities:

Bergin CI, Brooklyn CI, Cheshire CI, Corrigan CI, Enfield CI, Garner CI, Gates CI, MacDougall CI, Manson YI, Osborn CI, Radgowski CI, Robinson CI, Walker RSMU, Webster CI, Willard-Cybulski CI, York CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Vocational Education

Technical Assistants and Clerk Training

Description

Instruction is designed to provide entry-level skill training in keyboarding, word processing, spreadsheets, and basic graphic design. Students also learn team-building skills for school, work, and life enrichment.

Facilities:

Bergin CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Vocational Education

Textile Shop

Description

This is the largest of the shops of Correctional Enterprises of Connecticut (CEC). Inmates first assigned to this program spend several months in a training program learning how to operate sewing machines and other equipment used in the manufacture of garments and mattresses. The shop manufactures over 400,000 items annually. Inmates learn to work in a high production environment providing quality products in a timely manner.

Facilities:

Osborn CI

Auspices:

Correctional Enterprises of Connecticut

Types:

Institutional Employment, Vocational Education

The Center for Women and Families

Description

This contracted agency provides individual and group counseling to female inmates who are preparing to return to the community. The program assists them to prepare a plan to establish a non-criminal means of support, to locate adequate housing, and to enroll in educational or vocational training when appropriate. The agency continues to provide services to the inmate if she is released to the Bridgeport area.

Facilities:

York CI

Auspices:

Contracted Program

Types:

Transition

The Intensive Mental Health Unit (IMHU)

Description

The Intensive Mental Health Unit (IMHU) is a three-phase intensive behavior modification program designed to treat and safely manage those inmates with severe mental illness or mental retardation. These inmates also exhibit assaultive behavior and/or chronic disciplinary problems. The goal of this program is to reduce the number and severity of episodes of behavioral dyscontrol as well as increase compliance to his individual treatment plan. The program utilizes a collaborative approach with health services, (i.e., mental health and custody staff). A gradual increase in inmate privileges based on demonstrated positive compliance with unit protocol is the primary goal.

Facilities:

Garner CI

Auspices:

Health Services

Types:

Mental Health

The Resettlement Program

Description

The Resettlement Program is a program of Community Partners in Action, which provides long-term case management services to inmates six months prior to release and then up to six months follow-up services in the community. The goal of the program is to assist offenders prepare for and accomplish a successful transition back into the community. The targeted population for the program is those high-risk inmates who have a multitude of issues which include but are not limited to the following: a history of incarceration, substance abuse, lack of life skills and/or education, unstable employment record, lack of housing upon release, etc. The program acts as a bridge connecting inmates to those community based agencies that are instrumental in securing appropriate housing, treatment, employment, education, food, clothing and other life necessities. The ultimate goal is to help reduce the recidivism rate by assisting ex-offenders establish a crime-free life for themselves and their family.

Facilities:

Bergin CI, York CI

Auspices:

Contracted Program, Facility Staff, Volunteer Services

Types:

Transition

The Sacrifice of the Mass: A Study of its Prayers and Scriptures

Description

The program goal is to learn the meaning of all the prayers used at the Mass and to understand the scriptures proclaimed at the weekly prison Mass.

Facilities:

Brooklyn CI

Auspices:

Religious Services

Types:

Religious

The Skills Toward Employment Programs (Step Program)

Description

The STEP Program is designed to provide job readiness and job search skills that are intended to promote access to higher paying, personally relevant jobs that meet statewide labor market demands. Participants are non-custodial parents incarcerated at York Correctional Institution. The training modules include cover letters, goal setting, labor trends, networking, assessments, interviewing, transferable skills, listening skills, transition plans, career transcript, work values, job search, problem solving, resume writing and communication.

Facilities:

York CI

Auspices:

Contracted Program, USD#1

Types:

Transition

Therapeutic Community Meeting

Description

This group is provided to inmates assigned to mental health housing. The inmates discuss issues of concern using problem solving skills and conflict resolution.

Facilities:

Garner CI

Auspices:

Health Services

Types:

Mental Health

Therapeutic Recreation Class

Description

This program run by the Recreation Department is designed to provide inmates with positive social interaction skills via recreation group dynamic techniques. A variety of group games are analyzed. Participants learn how to play, score, referee and run games and tournaments.

Facilities:

Garner CI

Auspices:

Recreation Services

Types:

Self Improvement

Therapeutic Writing Group

Description

This group is provided to inmates assigned to mental health housing units. This is a structured writing group designed to promote positive coping skills, increase self-esteem and alleviate the impact of stressful life events.

Facilities:

Garner CI

Auspices:

Health Services

Types:

Mental Health

Thinking for a Change

Description

This cognitive behavior program was developed by the National Institute of Corrections. It is designed to help inmates change the way they think, help inmates develop improved social skills, and help inmates learn problem-solving skills. Research links successful completion of such programs to reduced recidivism.

Facilities:

Bergin CI, Brooklyn CI, Cheshire CI, Enfield CI, Garner CI, Gates CI, MacDougall CI, Manson YI, Osborn CI, Robinson CI, Webster CI, Willard-Cybulski CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Self Improvement, Youth CDU

Thinking For Good

Description

Thinking for Good is designed to directly address specific thoughts, attitudes and beliefs typically held by offenders, addicts and criminals who demonstrate anti-social behaviors.

Facilities:

Bergin CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Self Improvement

Thompson Hall Solarium Visiting

Description

Maintaining connections with children is especially important for many incarcerated women. York CI, often in conjunction with the Department of Children and Families, arranges visits in a special visiting area that provides a softer environment and separate space for inmates to visit their children.

Facilities:

York CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Family

Thresholds

Description

This is a community-based therapeutic counseling system specifically designed for delivery by trained volunteers. It focuses on developing decision-making and problems-solving skills.

Facilities:

Cheshire CI, Garner CI, Manson YI, New Haven CC, Webster CI

Auspices:

Volunteer Group

Types:

Self Improvement

Time of Prayer

Description

This is a prayer group that is held once per month.

Facilities:

York CI

Auspices:

Religious Services, Volunteer Services

Types:

Religious

Training In Prayer (Spanish)

Description

Topical instruction in the importance of prayer in spiritual development, and in various methods and practices of prayer in light of the Bible and historic protestant practice.

Facilities:

Radgowski CI

Auspices:

Religious Services

Types:

Religious

Training in Relaxation and Stress Reduction

Description

In this program inmates with mental health needs are introduced to a variety of techniques to reduce stress and induce relaxation. Techniques are practiced to promote a successful outcome.

Facilities:

York CI

Auspices:

Health Services

Types:

Mental Health

Transition/School to Work

Description

The Transition/School to Work program's mission is to place participating students in employment and/or vocational/educational programs and to provide each student with a needs-based transition plan prior to his/her release to maximize potential for successful re-entry into society. School-based and work-based learning opportunities are provided through job and resource fairs, employment skills curriculum, sessions with transition counselors and meetings with a transition coordinator. A USD#1 brochure describing this program is available.

Facilities:

Bergin CI, Bridgeport CC, Brooklyn CI, Cheshire CI, Enfield CI, Garner CI, Gates CI, Hartford CC, MacDougall CI, Manson YI, Osborn CI, Radgowski CI, Robinson CI, Walker RSMU, Webster CI, Willard-Cybulski CI, York CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Transition

Transitional Linkage into the Community (TLC)

Description

Transitional Linkage into the Community (TLC) is a program of Community Partners in Action which provides discharge planning for inmates with HIV/AIDS. TLC serves every prison and jail in the state, and works with clients returning to every region of the state. TLC case managers meet clients' emergency needs upon release, and connect them with services in their local communities for continuing care and assistance.

Facilities:

Bergin CI, Bridgeport CC, Brooklyn CI, Cheshire CI, Corrigan CI, Enfield CI, Garner CI, Gates CI, Hartford CC, MacDougall CI, Manson YI, New Haven CC, Northern CI, Osborn CI, Radgowski CI, Robinson CI, Walker RSMU, Webster CI, Willard-Cybulski CI, York CI

Auspices:

Contracted Program, Health Services

Types:

Health Education, Transition

Turning Point Program

Description

In this program specially screened long and short sentenced inmates speak to students (normally juvenile delinquent referrals) about "if they knew then what they know now." Students tour the facility and engage in a group discussion with inmates surrounding the topics of problems, consequences, effects and solutions. The purpose is to deter students in the community from criminal activity in a respectful, non-threatening forum.

Facilities:

Garner CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff, Volunteer Services

Types:

Community Service, Self Improvement

Understanding Addiction

Description

This program provides addiction education to inmates who are new admissions to the facility. Topics include the symptoms of addiction and strategies to remain drug free. This group meets weekly for four sessions.

Facilities:

York CI

Auspices:

Addiction Services

Types:

Addiction

Upholstery Shop

Description

This shop produces new seating; ergonomic chairs, lounge chairs, sofas etc... and re-upholsters old furniture. Inmates receive on the job training in the upholstery trade.

Facilities:

MacDougall CI

Auspices:

Correctional Enterprises of Connecticut

Types:

Institutional Employment, Vocational Education

V.O.I.C.E.S. (Victim Offender Institutional Correctional Educational Services)

Description

Volunteers support the Department's V.O.I.C.E.S. Program. It is designed to broaden inmates' understanding and sensitivity to the impact of their crime on others.

Facilities:

Bergin CI, Brooklyn CI, Enfield CI, Gates CI, Manson YI, Radgowski CI, Robinson CI, Webster CI, Willard-Cybulski CI, York CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff, Victim Services, Volunteer Services

Types:

Domestic Violence, Victim

Veterans Group

Description

This is a group that provides information for presently incarcerated inmates concerning veterans benefits available to them.

Facilities:

Hartford CC

Auspices:

Volunteer Services

Types:

Self Improvement

Victim-Offender Dialogue

Description

For a variety of reasons, it is sometimes helpful for victims to meet with offenders. The department's Victim Services Unit evaluates and when appropriate facilitates this dialogue. The process is designed to achieve the objectives of restorative justice, healing the victim, and confronting and holding the offender accountable. Although this process can often be very helpful to the inmate, all such dialogues are initiated at the request of victims.

Facilities:

Bergin CI, Bridgeport CC, Brooklyn CI, Cheshire CI, Corrigan CI, Enfield CI, Garner CI, Gates CI, Hartford CC, MacDougall CI, Manson YI, New Haven CC, Northern CI, Osborn CI, Radgowski CI, Robinson CI, Walker RSMU, Webster CI, Willard-Cybulski CI, York CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff, Victim Services

Types:

Domestic Violence, Victim

Video Discussion Group

Description

This group deals with a wide variety of issues utilizing videos followed by discussion and homework. Topics include substance abuse, domestic violence, self-esteem, hygiene/birth control, parenting, and women's issues.

Facilities:

York CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff, Health Services

Types:

Health Education, Self Improvement

Voices of Joy Choir

Description

This is a group that meets to practice gospel music and participates in Protestant Worship services and community functions.

Facilities:

York CI

Auspices:

Religious Services

Types:

Religious

Women and Depression

Description

This is a psychoeducational support group for inmates who have a history of depression. Through shared experience and educational resources, inmates are educated about various treatment options and techniques to help themselves.

Facilities:

York CI

Auspices:

Health Services

Types:

Health Education, Mental Health

Women of Praise

Description

This is a discussion group that focuses on Women's Faith issues.

Facilities:

York CI

Auspices:

Religious Services, Volunteer Services

Types:

Religious

Woodworking Shop

Description

This shop manufactures a full range of new furniture; desks, credenzas, bookcases, conference tables, etc..., and refinishes old furniture. Inmates are actively recruited from the Woodworking Vocational Educational Program. Their training is applied in "real world" work environment that allows them to further develop their cabinet making skills. Many jobs produced by this shop include "custom" work.

Facilities:

MacDougall CI

Auspices:

Correctional Enterprises of Connecticut

Types:

Institutional Employment, Vocational Education

Word for Windows

Description

This program provides a working knowledge of computer word processing concepts for entry level employment. This course forms part of the BCI Tech Prep Program with Manchester Community College. Students are awarded three college credits upon successful completion of the course.

Facilities:

Bergin CI, Brooklyn CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Vocational Education

Work Readiness

Description

This is an eight-week program provided by USD #1. The course focuses on job search, resume writing, and other necessary work readiness subjects.

Facilities:

Gates CI, Radgowski CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Transition

Writing Class

Description

This program is divided into 6 weeks cycles, one hour per week. Each cycle covers one of the following topics: Creative writing, journal writing, letter writing, and poetry. The student is required to complete the homework assignment or is not permitted to come to class. The instructor corrects all homework assignments and returns it to the student. Class discussion is focused on the homework assignment.

Facilities:

Garner CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Academic Education

Young and Positive

Description

This program provides participants with knowledge and skills normally acquired during the adolescent period of development. It addresses the effects that violence and substance abuse may have had during her formative years. It focuses on changing old patterns of behavior. This program is offered to inmates under the age of 18, including inmates in the Chronic Disciplinary Unit.

Facilities:

York CI

Auspices:

Facility Staff

Types:

Female CDU, Self Improvement

Youth Offender Program

Description

Through the use of federal funds, post-secondary education and transition services are provided to "youth offenders" up to the age of 26 who are eligible for parole or release within five years. A transition counselor provides assistance and counseling to encourage participants to acquire functional literacy as well as life/job skills while in prison. Students participate in post-secondary classes, complete portfolios, and develop transition plans and placement.

Facilities:

Bergin CI, Bridgeport CC, Brooklyn CI, Cheshire CI, Corrigan CI, Enfield CI, Garner CI, Gates CI, Hartford CC, Manson YI, Osborn CI, Radgowski CI, Robinson CI, Webster CI, Willard-Cybulski CI, York CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Academic Education, Vocational Education

Youthful Offender Mentoring Program

Description

A contract agency, Family ReEntry, Inc., conducts this program. Mentoring is a positive and supportive relationship with a responsible and dependable adult volunteer. Mentors are committed and caring individuals who assist inmates and their family with transition back to the community.

Facilities:

Manson YI

Auspices:

Contracted Program

Types:

Self Improvement, Transition

Youthful Offender Transition Counseling and College Courses

Description

In this program career resource training and job placement assistance are offered to youthful offenders. College course programming is provided through the local community college.

Facilities:

Bergin CI

Auspices:

USD#1

Types:

Transition